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1901.
QUEENSLAND.

REPORT OF THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL ON AGRICULTURAL AND
PASTORAL STATISTICS FOR 1900.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command.

TO THE UNDER SECRETARY, HOME SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT.

SIR,—I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Agricultural and Pastoral Statistics of the Colony for the past year, which I have endeavoured to make as comprehensive and complete as possible. All the different interests have been treated separately, and the fullest information afforded respecting each one that has been obtainable.

LIVE STOCK.

As in my Report of last year I have to record a serious decrease in the number of horses, cattle, and sheep as compared with the figures for 1899.

The drought which has held sway in all the Western parts of Queensland had not broken up on the date to which the returns of the colony are made up (31st December), and it was very difficult for many stockowners to say with any degree of certainty what numbers of stock they still had living.

Much delay was caused by some stockowners objecting to make any returns, and doubtless many are approximations only, whilst in numbers of instances stock has been sent away for pasturage and returned as being in other places.

The number of live stock in the colony on the 31st December, 1900, is shown in the following table, and contrasted with the previous year, the decrease and centesimal decrease being also shown.

A.

Year.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1899	479,127	5,053,836	15,226,479	139,118
1900	456,788	4,078,191	10,339,185	122,187
Numerical Increase in 1900 ... ..	...	...	...	...
Numerical Decrease in 1900	22,339	975,645	4,887,294	16,931
Centesimal Increase in 1900 ... ..	...	...	...	...
Centesimal Decrease in 1900	4.66	19.31	32.10	12.17

From the foregoing it will be seen that the decrease in numbers amounts to no less than nearly one million cattle and over four and three-quarter millions sheep.

Whilst an increased demand has existed for meat in all forms the supply of cattle and sheep in a condition fit for slaughter has been wanting. Not only have the animals themselves been scarce, but owing to the drought rendering stock routes destitute of both food and water, it was found impossible to move stock from run to market. This led to the early closing of all the meat works, and a forced cessation of industry at a time when the demand was abnormal and prices at their best.

The subjoined return shows the number of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs in the colony for each of the past ten years.

Leaving horses, for the diminution in whose numbers the war in South Africa is to some extent responsible, we find that cattle were in greatest numbers in 1894, when the number was over 7,000,000, or nearly twice as many as there are now. Sheep we find in the greatest number in 1892, when there were more than twice the number that are now returned. In 1892 there were no large meatworks to reduce the numbers, but we find that the export of wool, the produce of Queensland in that year, amounted to 105,033,063 lb., of the value of £4,255,939, as against 1900 with 49,189,392 lb., of a value of £2,197,243.

In pigs there has been a decrease amounting to 16,931 in 1900, as compared with the previous year; also a result of the drought, which, even in coastal districts, produced a scarcity of food and led to animals being slaughtered which would otherwise have been kept to breed.

Great interest is now taken in pig-keeping as an industry, and, given good seasons, a large increase in the number of pigs kept and dealt with for food will be noticed. Pig products are more extensively prepared and consumed than heretofore, and everything points to increasing demand and consequent production.

A a.

SHOWING the NUMBER of HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, and PIGS, in the Colony of Queensland—RETURN for TEN YEARS.

Year.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1891	399,364	6,192,759	20,289,633	122,672
1892	422,769	6,591,416	21,708,310	116,930
1893	429,734	6,693,200	18,697,015	68,086
1894	444,109	7,012,997	19,587,691	89,677
1895	468,743	6,822,401	19,856,959	100,747
1896	452,207	6,507,377	19,593,696	97,434
1897	479,280	6,089,013	17,797,883	110,855
1898	480,469	5,571,292	17,552,608	127,081
1899	479,127	5,053,836	15,226,479	139,118
1900	456,788	4,078,191	10,339,185	122,187

A table is given below, showing the centesimal increase or decrease in each class of stock for the last ten years.

Year.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1891	9·20	11·42	12·67	26·67
1892	5·86	6·44	6·99	— 4·68
1893	1·65	1·54	— 13·87	— 41·77
1894	3·35	4·78	4·76	31·71
1895	5·55	— 2·72	1·37	12·34
1896	— 3·53	— 4·63	— 1·33	— 3·29
1897	5·99	— 6·43	— 9·17	13·77
1898	0·25	— 8·50	— 1·38	14·64
1899	— 0·28	— 9·29	— 13·25	9·47
1900	— 4·66	— 19·31	— 32·10	— 12·17

— Decrease.

In this respect it is noticeable that horses show a decrease of nearly 5 per cent. (4·66), which is not surprising when we find that no less than 11,588 were exported by sea or sent borderwise out of the colony during the year. South Africa and China had shipments, and the total number exported amounts to one-half of the decrease in numbers for the year.

The following tables show the number and value of horses imported and exported during 1900, giving the countries from which they came and to which they went. These returns show that the balance in the excess of exportations amounted to £90,576:—

HORSES IMPORTED during 1900.

				Number.		Value.	
						£	£
<i>Seawards—</i>							
New South Wales	...	...	...	182	...	9,102	
Victoria	...	...	...	8	...	443	
					190		9,545
<i>Borderwise—</i>							
New South Wales	...	...	...	..	537	...	3,796
Total	...	...	...	...	727	...	13,341

HORSES EXPORTED during 1900.

<i>Seawards—</i>							
New South Wales	...	...	...	354	...	7,084	
Victoria	...	...	...	1	...	35	
Hong Kong	...	...	...	54	...	505	
India	...	...	...	2,453	...	23,294	
Cape Colony	...	...	...	1,981	...	19,336	
China	...	...	...	1,242	...	15,425	
Philippines	...	...	...	5	...	60	
Mozambique	...	...	...	596	...	4,768	
					6,686		70,507
<i>Borderwise—</i>							
New South Wales	...	...	...	...	4,902	...	33,410
Total	...	...	...	...	11,588	...	103,917

The numbers of cattle have diminished steadily for the past six years, the proportional losses for the past year having been abnormally great, whilst 1899 was a bad year, showing a loss in cattle of 9·29 on the whole of the herds of the colony, the year 1900 reached double that number, being no less than 19·31 of the whole.

In sheep, matters are still worse, for whilst 1899 recorded 13·25 per cent. of loss, the past year reaches no less than 32·10, or nearly one-third of the whole of the flocks of the colony. All these have not died of drought, because great numbers have been killed for food, and no less than 487,934, have been exported during the year, but still there should have been the natural increase to set-off against these.

As nearly all the great sheep districts have suffered severely from drought, the increase would be very small during the year just past, as in very few districts would the ewes be able to rear their lambs.

Pigs, after showing a steady increase for the past three years, have during the past year decreased in numbers to the extent of 12·17 per cent., a result attributed entirely, I believe, to the effects of the drought rendering it safer to kill whilst in fair condition and leave fewer animals to be kept on the reduced supply of food.

DISTRIBUTION.

A table is given below, showing the distribution of the stock and the numerical and centesimal increase and decrease for the past year in the three divisions of the colony. Each portion shows a decrease, except the Northern division, and the increase in that part is nominal only. An alteration in the boundary line between the Central and the Northern divisions was proclaimed by the Government, by which the Boulia and Winton districts were included in the latter instead of in the former as heretofore, so whilst it is only right to show the North as having increased, it may be understood that such increase is made by a transfer only and not as an ordinary increase.

It is quite unnecessary to make any comments on the increase or decrease in numbers of any district this year. As was the case last year, stock—and more especially sheep—have been sent to distant places, principally coastwise, for food and water, and whilst they belonged to runs or holdings in far Western districts, they were often returned as being at places far distant, and in other districts entirely. After the stock have returned to their own holdings it will be possible to localise the losses, and show the numbers of stock in each, but for this year nothing can be done in that way with any degree of certainty.

A.c.

Division.	Year.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
SOUTHERN	1899	221,479	2,042,387	6,080,238	113,001
	1900	208,471	1,604,910	4,879,206	97,238
	Numerical Increase in 1900	...	...	...	...
	Numerical Decrease in 1900	13,008	437,477	1,201,032	15,763
	Centesimal Increase in 1900	...	...	...	...
	Centesimal Decrease in 1900	5.87	21.42	19.75	13.95
CENTRAL	1899	128,272	1,484,370	6,904,226	9,892
	1900	105,761	925,890	3,436,720	9,420
	Numerical Increase in 1900	...	...	...	...
	Numerical Decrease in 1900	22,511	558,480	3,467,506	472
	Centesimal Increase in 1900	...	...	...	...
	Centesimal Decrease in 1900	17.55	37.62	50.22	4.77
NORTHERN	1899	129,376	1,527,079	2,242,015	16,225
	1900	142,556	1,547,391	2,023,259	15,529
	Numerical Increase in 1900	13,180	20,312	...	...
	Numerical Decrease in 1900	...	...	218,756	696
	Centesimal Increase in 1900	10.19	1.33	...	...
	Centesimal Decrease in 1900	...	...	9.76	4.29

NOTE.—Boulia and Winton being now included in Northern division accounts for large decrease in Central division.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF LIVE STOCK.

A table is appended showing the numbers of horned cattle and sheep imported and exported during each of the past ten years.

During the past year the importation of cattle has fallen to a little over one-half of the numbers of 1899, whilst the numbers exported in 1900 were nearly one-third only of that year. No doubt the restrictions arising from tick quarantining are responsible very largely for the falling off in both respects.

In sheep, the number imported during 1900 is a little over one-half of those imported during the previous year, whilst the number of those exported in 1900 is greater than those of 1899 by 24,668 head.

The net number of sheep exported was 383,967, and the number slaughtered 860,648 head; so that the losses attributable to drought would be less by 1,244,615 sheep profitably dealt with.

A.d.

Year.	Horned Cattle.		Sheep.	
	Inwards.	Outwards.	Inwards.	Outwards.
1891	3,535	210,240	281,670	513,201
1892	6,923	130,989	463,323	421,318
1893	7,003	183,663	223,655	1,016,945
1894	2,286	135,858	156,596	430,646
1895	5,590	80,620	186,007	295,032
1896	10,127	272,622	94,620	899,720
1897	13,197	176,329	289,768	1,114,270
1898	13,867	194,648	158,843	641,177
1899	16,972	205,243	200,523	463,276
1900	9,370	69,979	103,967	487,934

SIZES OF HERDS OF CATTLE.

In the subjoined table will be found a statement of the numbers of owners of each sized herd of cattle in the different districts returning not less than 100,000 head.

A.e.

Petty Sessions District.	Owners.	1 to 100.	Owners.	101 to 300.	Owners.	301 and upwards.	Total Owners.	Total Cattle.
Burke	11	256	3	583	16	138,863	30	139,702
Charters Towers	365	8,243	29	5,125	25	88,533	419	101,901
Clermont	188	4,428	26	5,015	28	98,030	242	107,473
Cloncurry	26	795	8	1,384	15	170,113	49	172,292
Gayndah	146	2,920	8	1,458	28	120,044	182	124,422
Hughenden	92	2,017	11	1,899	26	190,339	129	194,255
Mackay	680	11,681	23	4,153	28	86,609	731	102,443
Norman	10	236	3	850	24	236,817	37	237,903
Rockhampton	721	14,762	77	14,184	68	139,425	866	168,371
St. Lawrence	37	967	7	1,589	28	106,423	72	108,979
Springure	122	3,151	14	2,798	28	120,338	164	126,287
Taroom	56	1,101	10	2,039	29	121,726	95	124,866
All other Districts	20,264	401,854	1,051	186,643	849	1,780,800	22,164	2,369,297
Totals	22,718	452,411	1,270	227,720	1,192	3,398,060	25,180	4,078,191

By comparison with a similar table appearing for 1899, it will be seen that Boulia, Thargomindah, and Windorah no longer return the required number and are therefore included with "all other districts." For the year 1900 there are only twelve districts in Queensland returning 100,000 head of cattle, as against fifteen districts in 1899.

Compared with 1899, there have been decreases in the numbers of owners of smaller herds at Mackay, and increases at Gayndah, Rockhampton, and Springure. In herds up to 300 head, there have been increases in numbers of owners in nearly all the districts.

In the herds numbering above 300 head, there are decreases in every district except Burke and Gayndah. The former shows one owner more, with an increase in cattle of 4,499 head. Burke appears to have suffered less than any other, for it is the only one showing a general increase in the numbers returned by the various stations. All the other districts show a considerable decrease in the total number of cattle returned. This result is only what is to be expected from the severe drought prevailing for so long a period.

SIZES OF FLOCKS OF SHEEP.

For the year 1900 no true return can be given of the sizes of flocks, or one that is sufficiently correct to admit of comparison with similar returns for previous years. Stock belonging to one district has been sent away for feed, and returned in another district to so great an extent as to render it simply impossible to say how many sheep returned in any district really belong to it, or are there merely for agistment. Under these circumstances it would be of no value to show which districts have increased and which have decreased, and to what extent. The subjoined table simply shows the number of sheep returned in each district as being there on the 31st December last, without regard to where they really belong.

The losses through drought have been very great, but as some of the sheep belonging to Western districts were still alive, though absent, a comparison showing that the number of sheep had decreased by the difference in the numbers returned in the years 1900 and 1899 respectively, would be erroneous and misleading.

The fact remains that the numbers returned for 1900 are less than those of 1899 by 4,887,294 sheep.

A.f.

Petty Sessions Districts.	50 and Under.		51 to 1,000.		1,001 to 5,000.		5,001 to 20,000.		20,000 and Upwards.		Total Number of Sheep.	
	Owners.	Sheep.	Owners.	Sheep.	Owners.	Sheep.	Owners.	Sheep.	Owners.	Sheep.	Total Owners.	Total Sheep.
Adavale	1	35	1	923	...	...	4	44,352	3	167,685	9	212,995
Aramac	2	77	10	3,851	9	25,819	7	60,878	1	33,681	29	124,306
Barcaldine	6	133	17	6,868	14	39,497	9	85,530	6	269,300	52	401,328
Blackall	8	194	8	3,625	12	35,605	4	46,300	7	287,344	39	373,068
Bollon	2	26	5	1,461	7	16,257	7	84,862	3	72,134	24	174,740
Charleville	8	150	8	2,871	13	27,540	4	56,478	2	48,202	35	135,241
Clermont	22	393	10	3,733	8	25,620	1	6,000	8	566,664	49	602,410
Cloncurry	2	36	...	...	1	3,500	5	55,899	5	210,658	13	270,093
Cunnamulla	2	73	22	13,407	46	110,957	9	96,255	3	166,137	82	386,829
Dalby	33	537	79	38,536	53	110,524	10	104,316	7	401,932	182	655,845
Goondiwindi... ..	8	165	8	3,343	9	25,978	14	138,442	2	174,200	41	342,128
Hughenden	4	95	4	1,582	26	83,879	34	369,075	11	655,251	79	1,109,882
Hungerford ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	48,710	3	80,782	6	129,492
Isisford	4	65	8	2,014	2	5,407	4	41,743	2	97,385	20	146,614
Longreach	9	124	18	8,516	30	74,823	11	100,780	6	228,356	74	412,599
Mitchell	12	198	15	4,647	6	12,027	3	41,301	1	54,583	37	112,756
Muttaborra	1	30	4	1,660	11	35,380	7	76,790	13	683,102	36	796,962
Roma	21	330	18	6,554	14	40,194	3	43,567	1	53,354	57	143,999
St. George	4	57	9	2,589	17	49,707	10	83,931	6	367,996	46	504,280
Springure	13	269	8	3,188	11	29,300	7	71,620	4	247,022	43	351,399
Surat	4	97	10	5,250	19	54,920	7	55,850	3	159,474	43	275,591
Tambo	2	7	3	1,403	6	14,208	7	60,483	4	159,088	22	235,189
Thargomindah	2	43	3	2,500	9	26,854	5	54,593	2	55,220	21	139,210
Toowoomba	20	361	89	41,777	34	71,927	11	125,009	7	437,823	161	676,897
Warwick	18	403	38	16,786	19	40,282	3	30,123	3	114,187	81	201,781
Windorah	3	100	11	5,020	4	11,200	3	39,000	1	50,000	22	105,320
Winton	3	10	3	1,395	7	24,226	5	47,550	9	376,701	27	449,882
All other Districts	303	5,392	211	59,971	60	142,931	38	424,285	8	235,770	620	868,349
Totals	517	9,400	620	243,470	447	1,138,562	235	2,493,722	131	6,454,031	1,950	10,339,185

A table has been prepared, and is given below, showing the average number of sheep to each holding during each of the past ten years; but, for the reason already given, the numbers of owners (1,950) may be less accurate than is the case in a normal season.

Undoubtedly the number of grazing farms taken up will tend to increase the numbers of owners and also to decrease the average size of flocks, and probably with a return of good seasons, and as the grazing farms become stocked and in active work, considerable progress will be made in this direction, but for the past year many of the grazing farms have been without stock, and the increase in the number of owners is mainly due to the sheep being split up in different places and returned by a greater number of persons than would have been the case had they remained on their own run.

A g.

Year.	No. of Owners.		No. of Sheep.		Average Size of Flocks.	
1891	1,018	...	20,289,633	...	19,931	...
1892	1,496	...	21,708,310	...	14,511	...
1893	1,440	...	18,697,015	...	12,984	...
1894	1,584	...	19,587,691	...	12,366	...
1895	1,637	...	19,856,959	...	12,130	...
1896	1,664	...	19,593,696	...	11,775	...
1897	1,793	...	17,797,883	...	9,926	...
1898	1,835	...	17,552,608	...	9,565	...
1899	1,897	...	15,226,479	...	8,027	...
1900	1,950	...	10,339,185	...	5,302	...

A table is given below showing the number of animals per square mile of country and per head of population for each of the three divisions of the colony and also for the whole colony. The population is based on the figures obtained from the census just taken, but the return, so far as it affects the distribution of animals, is to some extent fallacious for the reasons already given.

A h.

	Southern Division.		Central Division.		Northern Division.		Colony.	
	Square Mile.	Per Capita of Population.	Square Mile.	Per Capita of Population.	Square Mile.	Per Capita of Population.	Square Mile.	Per Capita of Population.
Horses	1.00	0.64	0.71	1.72	0.46	1.30	0.68	0.92
Cattle	7.67	4.91	6.23	15.07	4.98	14.07	6.10	8.19
Sheep	23.31	14.93	23.12	55.93	6.52	18.40	15.47	20.75
All kinds in terms of Sheep	109.93	70.41	92.52	223.81	60.94	172.09	83.30	111.77
Pigs ... ..	...	0.30	...	0.15	...	0.14	...	0.25
All kinds, including pigs, in terms of Sheep ... ..	...	70.71	...	223.97	...	172.23	...	112.01

RELATIVE VALUES OF EXPORTS.

As was done in last year's Report, a table has been prepared showing the value of each class of the products of the colony—agricultural, pastoral, and mining. All produce of meatworks and such like establishments, live animals, wool, hides, tallow, skins, and all by-products of sheep and cattle have been credited to the pastoral industry.

Pigs and dairy produce, bacon, butter, &c., are classed as agricultural produce, together with all farm produce.

Minerals there can be no doubt about, as they do not merge in any way into either of the other two classes. In this class the bulk of minerals obtained are exported, except coal, but in each class it should be remembered that the home consumption must be added to the value of exports to ascertain the value of the industry.

A i.

EXPORTS.—PRODUCE OF THE COLONY.

	£	Percentage to Total Exports—1899.	£	Percentage to Total Exports—1900.
Agricultural ...	1,367,502	12.0	904,171	9.90
Pastoral ...	7,025,166	61.2	5,248,785	57.44
Mineral ...	3,078,099	26.8	2,984,689	32.66
	£11,470,767	100.0	£9,137,645	100.00

From the above it will be seen that agricultural exports have decreased to the extent of £463,331, the principal item being sugar, which is £493,621 less in 1900 than in 1899. In other agricultural items there has been an increase, such as butter, £2,233; green fruit, £11,198; bacon and hams, £14,764. No item besides sugar shows any decrease worthy of mention.

There is a decrease in the pastoral exports amounting to £1,776,381, the principal items of which are, wool, £1,184,394; horned cattle, £435,321; extract of meat, £126,198; hides, £82,497; tallow, £160,991; and skins, £65,304; whilst meat, frozen, preserved, &c., shows an increase of £178,611.

The decrease in minerals exported amounts to £93,410, and is accounted for in the diminished export of gold dust and bullion, which is less for 1900 by £130,788 as compared with 1899. Wolfram shows a decrease in the value exported amounting to £12,265. Copper shows an increase for 1900 of £21,952, as compared with 1899; whilst cyanide gold shows an increase in value exported of £23,964, and gold ore £9,931.

The great cause of diminution in our exports is undoubtedly drought, for the loss in the yield of sugar and loss of wool and cattle are due entirely to this cause, as is also the diminished export of gold, for the want of water stopped mining operations for a time at Mount Morgan and other gold-producing centres.

Whilst the export of agricultural produce and minerals may be confidently expected to increase with a return of fair seasons the great losses sustained in cattle and sheep will keep down the quantities of wool, meat, and other pastoral products for some time to come, so that the total value of exports of 1899 of £11,470,767 may not be again reached for some time.

CAUSES OF LOSS.

The great cause of loss to all owners of cattle and sheep has been the drought. Whilst the losses from ticks have no doubt been considerable, there has been nothing like the wholesale losses which arose from this cause when ticks first made their presence felt in the Northern division of the colony.

During the time it has taken them to reach the Southern division of the colony careful investigations have been made as to the life habits of the pest, and the value of many restrictive measures tested. Dips have been erected in many places, and the value of various ingredients and their action on ticks have been carefully noted. So that, although the tick has reached Brisbane district, one need not fear such havoc resulting amongst the herds as obtained in the north of the colony some time ago.

The disastrous drought which extended over the whole of Queensland was least felt in the North-west of the colony, the Burke district having sustained little loss from this cause, although, being cut off from the markets by long stages devoid of grass and water, the owners were prevented from sending their cattle out of the district. The local meatworks enabled owners to realise on their herds to some extent, but this of course restricted operations to fat cattle.

Further south, however, drought reigned supreme, and in the South-western portion of the colony was at its worst. From Hughenden to the South Australian border, and thence over the whole area to the south of such a line the drought has been severe, and prolonged to a degree never before experienced.

In cattle, the losses fell at a time when the demand for beef in its various marketable forms was at its best, and when the wars in South Africa and China caused tinned meats to be greatly in demand.

Although much has been done to meet this demand, a much larger business could have been done had cattle in good condition been available in greater numbers. As it was, meatworks were closed for several months, and the hands, in many cases, were out of employment, whilst the cattle died of starvation on the runs.

A further cause of loss, more especially in sheep, is the increased number of dingoes now existing and living on the animals. The reason for such increase is the abundant food from the number of dead animals and the ease with which weak sheep are killed; also the absence of systematic poisoning. Since the great losses set in, the animals have not been protected against the dingoes as formerly, and as food has been abundant the pest has increased and thriven without any check, and is now in great numbers in many parts of the West.

Had it not been for the railways, the losses in sheep must have been much heavier, since many thousands were sent to coastal districts from all the stations in the extreme West.

In the table given below is shown the number of cattle and sheep treated at the various meatworks, the number exported less importation, and the estimated number killed for food. The number under the latter head is less for 1900 than for the previous year, but is, I believe, a nearer approach to accuracy than was the case before.

Returns have been collected from all butchers and others slaughtering animals for food consumed in towns and settlements, and is less this year than last, owing in part no doubt to an enhanced price causing greater economy in the use of meat.

A j.

	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
	Cattle.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Sheep.
Preserved, frozen, and boiled down	386,466	280,054	479,818	151,655
Exported, less number imported	188,271	60,609	262,753	383,967
Estimated number killed for food for home consumption	254,432	223,169	1,017,728	708,993
	829,169	563,832	1,760,299	1,244,615

From the above it will be seen that the numbers of cattle and sheep killed or sold for profit at factories were very much under the figures of the previous year. There were 106,412 less cattle treated at meatworks, 127,662 less exported, and 31,263 less estimated to have been used for food within the colony in 1900 than in 1899.

In sheep the number treated at the meatworks during 1900 is less by 328,163 than in 1899. The number exported is greater by 121,214, and the number estimated to have been killed for home food less by 308,735.

Taking the numbers of cattle in the colony at the end of 1899, and adding to them the number slaughtered for profit and exported, we find that all natural increase is absorbed and a loss shown of 411,813 head at the end of 1900.

Treating sheep similarly we find a loss of 3,642,679, all natural increase being also absorbed.

The following table will show the figures more clearly :—

		Cattle.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Sheep.
Animals in the colony at the end of 1899	...	...	5,053,836	...	15,226,479
" " " " 1900	...	4,078,191	...	10,339,185	...
Number killed and exported during 1900	...	563,832	...	1,244,615	...
			4,642,023		11,583,800
Deficit, including all natural increase, for 1900	...	...	411,813	...	3,642,679

LIVE STOCK SLAUGHTERED.

The number of cattle slaughtered for profit during 1900 was 503,223, as against 640,898 in 1899 ; of these, 108,975 head were killed for preserving, 150,057 head were frozen, and 21,022 were boiled down, including those treated for extract.

Compared with 1899 there were 31,840 less cattle killed for preserving in 1900, whilst there were 32,389 more frozen, and 106,961 less boiled down. The scarcity and greater value of cattle in the past as compared with the previous year has doubtless led to the diminution in numbers under the last head, whilst the quantity of extract made in 1900 was only 759,193 lb., as against 1,925,193 lb. in 1899.

In sheep there were 860,648 slaughtered for food in 1900, against 1,497,546 in 1899 ; those treated at meatworks and the estimated number killed for food being alike reduced. With regard to the former there were 75,887 killed for preserving in 1900, against 144,345 head in 1899, a reduction of nearly one-half, whilst those frozen for 1900 were 50,719 head against 119,964 head for 1899, a reduction of more than one-half. There were 25,049 sheep boiled down in 1900 against 215,509 so treated in 1899, or only about an eighth of those so dealt with in the previous year.

Although the demand for tinned meats for South Africa was very active, the increase in quantity frozen is noticeable. Doubtless the price obtained is the ruling factor, and if the cattle killed are sufficiently prime in condition, the meat will be frozen or preserved as will afford the highest returns.

Appendix Table No. VII. gives the return for ten years of the various products obtained at the various meatworks.

For the year 1900 there have been thirty-three establishments engaged in freezing and preserving meat, boiling down, bacon factories, &c., employing 2,540 hands as against forty-seven works employing 3,156 hands in 1899. Of these twenty-five are meat and boiling-down works and eight are bacon factories, as is shown in the subjoined table :—

A k.

No. of Establishments.	Kind of Establishments.	No. of Hands Employed.	Value of Machinery and Plant.	Value of Land and Premises.	Value of Output.
8	Bacon Curing... ..	155	£ 19,396	£ 24,080	£ 174,661
8	Boiling Down	39	9,050	3,200	20,852
17	Meat Preserving	2,346	272,150	369,932	1,399,256
33		2,540	300,596	397,212	1,594,769

The reduction in numbers is due to the closure of several small establishments in different places. Two bacon factories have closed down during the year, whilst one new one has been started. These establishments will be more fully treated under the heads of farm produce and the production of bacon and ham.

EXTRACT, TALLOW, &c.

The production of extract of beef has fallen off to a great extent during the past year, the quantity for 1900 being 759,193 lb. against 1,925,193 lb. for the previous year. Tallow has fallen to one-half, the output being 9,657 tons for 1900, against 19,165 tons for 1899. This is the output of meatworks only, besides which there is tallow saved by butchers and others. The quantity of tallow exported for 1900 was 13,779 tons.

There were 90,608 hogs treated, from which 7,685,446 lb. of bacon was made, an increase of bacon of 537,686 lb. for 1900. Lard was produced amounting to 331,695 lb., against 222,460 lb. for 1899.

BY-PRODUCTS.

From the twenty-seven factories in operation which returned by-products during 1900 there were produced 9,519 tons of manure, against 17,347 tons for 1899. Nearly the whole of this appears to have been exported. Edible fats were produced in 1900 amounting to 1,362,786 lb., against 985,121 lb. in 1899. In hides there was a considerable falling off, the number for 1900 being 265,051, against 395,929 in 1899. Skins also showed considerable reduction in number, being for 1900, 191,445, against 524,215 for the previous year. In bones there was a reduction of one-half the weight for 1900, being 655 tons against 1,265 tons in 1899. Horns and hoofs appear in value only, and show an increase, being of the value of £12,900, in 1900, against £10,819 in 1899. This would probably follow a rise in value. Hair, for 1900, appears as yielding 39,089 lb., against 92,487 lb. for 1899, but the increased value appears to have made up to some extent for the short production, since the loss in value is only £358. Oils, for 1900, returned 17,590 gallons, against 26,000 gallons for 1899. In the total value, however, a very considerable shrinkage is noticeable, the total for 1900 being £336,123, against £526,928 for 1899.

The full table giving particulars under each heading for the past six years appears as number VIII. in the Appendix.

ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED.

A table appears in the Appendix (No. IX.) giving the consolidated returns obtained from the inspectors of slaughter-houses throughout the colony, which shows the estimated number of the inhabitants in the district for which they act, and the numbers and average weight of animals slaughtered for food; from which has been worked out the average number of pounds weight of beef, mutton, veal, lamb, and pork per each individual for the year. From this it appears that the average consumption per head in Queensland is 228 lb. of beef, 46 lb. of mutton, 2 lb. veal, 1 lb. of lamb, and 7 lb. of pork, being a total of 284 lb. of animal food per head for the year. This is not the highest weight of meat eaten throughout Australia, Mr. Coghlan giving the consumption of New South Wales as 293½ lb., Victoria 271 lb., and Western Australia 324 lb. Meat being cheap in Australia it would be consumed in the greatest quantity, added to which the greater heat of the climate causes much more loss and waste than in cooler parts and as would also the sparser populations, giving less facilities for cool storage and other means of economising meat foods.

WOOL.

As necessarily followed from the great loss in sheep and the impassable state of the roads, the export of wool has fallen off to a large extent both in quantity and value. As compared with 1899, the decrease represents on the export a loss of 21,883,073 lb., whilst the value shows a shrinkage of £1,191,409. This includes wool imported and afterwards exported, which is less in 1900 than in the previous year by 176,357 lb., and in value £7,015.

Taking the values given by exporters it is found that the average values of clean and greasy wools exported for the three past years is as under—

	1898.	1899.	1900.
Greasy wool averaged ...	6¾d. per lb.	9d. per lb.	8½d. per lb.
Clean wool averaged ...	11½d. „	16d. „	15¾d. „

The following statement shows the quantity and value of clean and greasy wool exported during 1900, and contrasting it with 1899, that produced in Queensland being distinguished from the wool imported:—

A 1.

Exports.	QUANTITY.			VALUE.		
	Produce of the Colony.	Foreign.	Total.	Produce of the Colony.	Foreign.	Total.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	£	£	£
Wool (clean) ...	15,498,362	...	15,498,362	1,014,401	...	1,014,401
Wool (greasy) ...	33,691,030	66,050	33,757,080	1,182,842	2,127	1,184,969
Total 1900 ...	49,189,392	66,050	49,255,442	2,197,243	2,127	2,199,370
Total 1899 ...	70,896,108	242,407	71,138,515	3,381,637	9,142	3,390,779
Increase in 1900 ...	21,706,716	176,357	21,883,073	1,184,394	7,015	1,191,409
Decrease in 1900 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...

The consumption of wool in Queensland for 1900 was 175,000 lb. against 192,000 lb. in 1899 and 308,000 lb. in 1898. It is a matter of regret that the wool manufactured in Queensland is a steadily diminishing quantity. With abundance of coal and the first cost for the raw material, it should be possible with modern machinery to produce an article that would compete successfully with the imported article. Probably the labour question is the controlling factor in the case.

DAIRYING.

Notwithstanding the drought the figures in some of the lines of this industry show advancement and although there has been less milk and cream obtained, the return of butter made therefrom shows an increase of 217,794 lb. over the quantity manufactured in 1899.

Whilst the number of persons or establishments treating cream only has increased from 930 in 1899 to 1,263 in 1900, the number of establishments handling cream and butter has decreased from 4,740 in 1899 to 3,630 in 1900.

The principal decreases in production have taken place in the Brisbane and South Brisbane districts, Gympie, Ipswich, and Rockhampton, whilst there has been a general increase in nearly all the other districts for the past year as compared with 1899.

But for drought reducing the food supply of the dairy cattle in nearly all dairying districts, and the losses from ticks in Rockhampton and districts to the south of it, there would have been a considerable extension of the industry.

The Central factories have produced a greater quantity of butter during the past year, the output being 6,917,117 lb. for 1900 against 5,796,131 lb. for 1899, whilst there has been a corresponding decrease in the other two classes of butter makers—viz., those having separators and those making butter from hand-skimmed cream. The tendency in dairying is undoubtedly to utilise creameries against both private separators and handwork, and wherever a group of farmers take up dairying a creamery soon follows. By taking his milk to a creamery, if close handy, the farmer is saved all the bother and trouble of separating the milk for himself or of setting the milk in dishes, and the skim milk is equally available if he wishes to make any use of it.

A table is given below, showing the quantity of milk, cream, butter, and cheese made in each of the more important dairying centres in the colony.

B.

RETURN of BUTTER and CHEESE FACTORIES and the RESULTS OBTAINED therefrom during the Year 1900; also PRODUCTION by PRIVATE MAKERS.

DISTRICT.	ESTABLISHMENTS HANDLING		BUTTER.						CHEESE.		
	Cream Only.	Cream and Butter.	*Milk dealt with.	*Cream Produced.	Central Factories.	Made by Persons having Separators Making under 7,000 lb. each.	Made from Hand-skimmed Cream.	Total.	Producers.	Milk.	Cheese.
			Gallons.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.		Gallons.	Lb.
Allora	7	290	568,625	403,146	29,344	...	72,746	102,090	2	3,750	3,320
Beauesert	127	98	1,285,329	878,557	225,828	18,684	22,202	266,714	1	54,750	52,150
Biggenden	8	43	153,149	108,056	8,000	18,374	6,137	32,511	...	...	...
Brisbane	37	105	640,664	371,391	2,192,270	72,911	28,566	2,203,747	...	...	...
Bundaberg	38	171	476,996	337,195	80,082	42,582	33,598	156,262	...	...	...
Caboolture	18	43	400,547	284,786	...	21,388	16,530	37,918	...	...	...
Childers .....	...	105	115,980	56,837	...	7,792	20,477	28,269	...	...	...
Crow's Nest	2	172	184,261	103,958	...	9,852	31,823	41,675	15	38,579	38,579
Dugandan	83	6	929,062	718,641	94,641	500	569	95,710	1	300	300
Esk	52	19	579,347	409,628	270,480	27,248	2,876	300,604	4	163,730	163,730
Gatton	188	116	1,566,210	1,159,217	41,605	18,240	15,865	75,610	3	3,040	3,040
Gympie	88	66	484,412	421,919	182,310	32,703	8,293	223,306	5	4,510	4,560
Harrisville	71	29	1,112,603	923,271	...	20,355	10,200	30,555	4	210,750	209,511
Highfields	14	222	399,603	293,664	...	5,622	89,169	94,791	8	109,383	117,362
Ipswich	80	42	904,127	632,143	836,679	16,828	7,022	860,529	...	...	...
Logan	21	310	949,972	609,424	6,850	67,141	35,368	109,359	...	30	30
Mackay .....	...	57	130,653	94,842	...	31,623	11,636	43,259	1	30	30
Marburg	62	8	1,791,574	1,474,187	118,967	4,460	18,010	141,437	...	80	80
Maroochy	2	144	204,469	145,252	24,350	23,522	28,083	75,955	...	...	...
Maryborough	27	148	434,246	242,000	...	47,844	31,298	79,142	...	...	...
Redcliffe	11	83	1,053,915	689,231	236,202	65,414	33,576	335,282	6	36,257	35,957
Rockhampton .....	...	108	439,521	291,159	42,642	29,913	68,898	141,453	7	11,080	11,080
Rosewood	27	34	1,380,539	1,074,650	...	34,634	3,192	37,826	2	5,771	5,771
South Brisbane	18	46	191,104	149,274	925,694	30,597	11,023	967,314	...	...	...
Tiaro	62	63	637,442	382,486	210,184	27,118	6,164	243,466	14	44,490	42,900
Toowoomba	99	227	1,285,932	949,103	1,386,839	24,416	47,128	1,458,383	10	703,185	732,098
Warwick	13	177	990,985	658,292	...	23,905	107,250	131,155	8	420,486	434,814
Woodford	4	24	270,409	157,004	...	14,583	10,014	24,597	2	23,176	21,000
All other Districts	104	674	2,322,731	1,602,199	4,160	97,469	149,811	251,440	20	107,295	108,393
Total ... 1900	1,263	3,630	21,884,407	15,621,512	6,917,117	835,718	927,554	8,680,889	115	1,940,672	1,984,705
Total ... 1899	930	4,740	22,934,432	16,373,635	5,796,131	1,194,181	1,472,283	8,462,595	221	1,911,214	1,910,300

* N.B.—The quantities of milk and cream in any district bear but little relation to the butter made in that district, as much of the milk and cream is conveyed elsewhere than the place of production for manufacture.

From it will be seen that, as in 1899, Marburg stands first as producing the greatest quantity of milk, the output being 1,791,574 gallons, being a considerable shrinkage from 1899. Gatton, with 1,566,210 gallons, is next, being an increase of 50 per cent. on the figures of 1899. Rosewood, 1,380,539 gallons; Toowoomba, 1,285,932 gallons; Beauesert, 1,285,329 gallons; all show increases for the year.

As has before been explained, the quantity of milk obtained in a district does not necessarily bear any relation to its output of butter, since both milk and cream are frequently sent into other districts for treatment.

The averages obtained for the whole colony between gallons of milk and pounds of cream and butter are as under:—

It takes 1.41 gallons of milk to produce	...	...	1 lb. cream.
" " 1.80 lb. of cream to produce...	...	...	1 lb. butter.
" " 2.53 gallons of milk to produce	...	...	1 lb. butter.

These averages, as compared with those of 1899, are the same for milk to cream, whilst the quantities of cream to butter are 0.13, and the quantity of milk to butter are 0.18 below the averages of 1899.

The reason for this improvement does not appear on any reports which have reached me.

The number of butter factories which have obtained advances from the Meat and Dairy Fund are 9, the total amount of advances being £7,422. On the 31st December last the total indebtedness of these establishments on account of such advances, including interest up to that date, was £3,094. Creameries had obtained advances amounting to £1,785; the total indebtedness on the 31st December, 1900, including interest, being £1,102.

The steady importation of first-class bulls of the best milking strain continues, and would doubtless obtain greater proportions but for the trouble and expense of rendering the animals immune to tick-fever. As it is, there are now a large proportion of well-bred dairy cattle, and the importance of keeping none but the best class of cow is widely recognised.

Another matter that forms an important factor in dairying is the necessity of feeding the cattle and of making a suitable provision for times of drought. The dry weather experienced in 1900 had the effect of seriously reducing the quantity of milk obtained and enhancing the price of butter. It does not follow, however, that dairymen reaped any benefit from the rise in price compared with the loss they sustained in quantity of milk produced. As the industry develops, this matter will be recognised as an absolutely necessity.

As showing the value of the butter industry to Australia, the quantity and value of butter exported from the three of the colonies—namely, Victoria, New South Wales, and Queensland—for the year 1900 is appended :—

		Lb.		£
New South Wales	...	10,692,002	...	447,982
Victoria	...	36,237,469	...	1,404,179
Queensland	...	1,389,250	...	51,729

CHEESE.

Cheese-making has made some progress during 1900, although the number of makers has fallen from 221 in 1899 to 115 in 1900. This is due to a number of the makers of small quantities having ceased to manufacture cheese.

The quantity of milk for cheese-making was 1,940,672 gallons in 1900 as compared with 1,911,214 gallons in 1899, and the weight of cheese made therefrom was 1,984,705 lb. in 1900 as against 1,910,300 lb. in 1899, showing increases for 1900 of 29,458 gallons of milk and 74,405 lb. of cheese.

The table showing the quantity of cheese produced in each district is incorporated with the Butter table, and will be seen on the preceding page, Table B.

The district producing the greatest quantity of cheese in 1900 was Toowoomba, with 732,098 lb., followed by Warwick, with 434,814 lb.; Harrisville, with 209,511 lb.; and Esk, with 163,730 lb.; all of which show considerable increases over the corresponding figures for 1899.

As is the case in butter, the quantity of cheese obtained from milk is slightly greater in 1900 than was the case in 1899, pointing to richer milk.

Taking the average of the whole of Queensland, it requires 0·98 gallons of milk to produce 1 lb. weight of cheese, and conversely, 1·02 lb. of cheese are obtained from each gallon of milk.

The quantity and value of cheese imported into and exported from Queensland for 1900 is as under :—

Imported.		Value.		Exported.		Value.
		£				£
25,092 lb.	...	1,039		31,688 lb.	...	626

So that the production of this article of food may be said to have fully supplied the requirements of the colony, unless, as will probably be the case, an increased production by reducing the price induces a greater consumption.

The consumption of cheese in Queensland averages 4·03 lb. *per capita*. The consumption of cheese in Denmark and Canada is 22 lb.; United States, 20 lb.; and the United Kingdom, 19 lb. *per capita*.

BACON AND HAM.

The number of pigs in the colony on the 31st December, 1899, was 139,118, and the total number slaughtered during the year 1900 was 129,459 animals, whilst the number in the colony on the 31st December, 1900, was 122,187 pigs.

Ninety thousand six hundred and eight pigs were slaughtered during the year 1900 at bacon factories and by farmers, including those used for pork, fresh and salt, and curing.

There were 7,685,446 lb. of bacon and hams produced during 1900 against 7,147,760 lb. for 1899, there being a corresponding reduction in pork.

The district dealing with the greatest number of pigs is Brisbane—viz., 58,147 pigs out of a total of 90,608, whilst five-sevenths of the bacon produced in the colony was made in that district.

The districts next in quantity of bacon and hams produced are South Brisbane, 440,272; Toowoomba, 360,004 lb.; Maryborough, 166,154 lb.; Gatton, 118,748 lb.; Warwick, 115,260 lb.

The quantity and value of bacon and hams exported from Queensland for the past two years are :—

YEAR.							IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.	
							Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
							lb.	£	lb.	£
1899	{	Pork	...	...	...	...	729	15	12,081	223
		Bacon and Hams	...	...	...	...	15,491	597	1,028,060	31,090
							16,220	612	1,040,141	31,313
1900	{	Pork	...	...	...	...	3,564	31	42,501	1,020
		Bacon and Hams	...	...	...	...	15,130	545	1,657,805	45,846
							18,694	576	1,700,306	46,866

The expansion of pig-keeping and the industries arising therefrom will probably keep pace with dairying, since profitable pig-keeping depends entirely upon an abundant food supply, and the skim milk remaining after the butter has been taken from it requires to be profitably consumed, and seems specially adapted for pig food, supplemented by farm produce.

Now that good bacon can be cured all the year round by the application of artificially-produced cold, pig-keeping has become one of the most profitable adjuncts to dairying and farming, and, as there is practically no limit to the market, an expansion may be looked for relatively to the expansion in its kindred industries.

The following table gives the number of pigs slaughtered at factories and by farmers in thirty-four of the petty sessions districts of the colony, and also of the whole colony, at the same time showing the quantities of fresh and salt pork and bacon and hams produced therefrom:—

Ba.

Petty Sessions District.	Pigs Slaughtered.	Fresh Pork.	Salt Pork.	Bacon and Hams.
	Number.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Allora	471	2	...	60,004
Beaudesert	482	410	200	54,963
Biggenden	424	14,403	1,300	24,252
Bowen	375	2,517	4,530	15,237
Brisbane	58,147	9,867	5,395	5,229,587
Bundaberg	745	15,903	3,175	56,220
Cairns	291	12,060	1,470	10
Childers	291	2,177	7,640	15,162
Cleveland	251	13,773	500	13,942
Crow's Nest	498	1,377	...	65,764
Dalby	362	1,980	8,680	32,548
Dugandan	464	5,080	40,291	19,051
Esk	513	2,166	2,720	55,672
Gatton	969	2,670	8,400	118,748
Gin Gin	383	8,846	5,028	18,115
Gympie	682	12,950	848	53,042
Harrisville	446	1,830	3,410	46,534
Highfields	628	42	1,820	86,596
Ipswich	728	33,223	17,661	19,002
Killarney	259	325	3,496	30,928
Laidley	671	8,710	47,271	33,575
Logan	808	697	51,623	64,860
Mackay	467	4,540	10,589	28,018
Marburg	482	4,005	3,180	69,009
Maroochy	319	6,286	7,605	31,379
Maryborough	2,028	24,918	6,080	166,154
Nanango	519	4,188	1,395	51,895
Rockhampton	2,837	14,935	9,406	44,329
Rosewood	312	3,910	440	36,279
South Brisbane	6,455	19,570	3,700	440,272
Tiaro	628	17,221	1,320	44,080
Toowoomba	3,059	2,158	7,833	360,004
Warwick	1,474	58,743	781	115,260
All Other Districts	3,140	74,216	42,587	184,955
Total, 1900	90,608	385,698	310,374	7,685,446
„ 1899	101,704	773,701	201,601	7,147,760

This return includes the produce of bacon factories and farmers' returns, but does not include those killed by butchers, which amount to an additional 38,851, thus making the total number of animals slaughtered for profit for 1900 to 129,459, and is, therefore, with the product of butchers' pigs amounting to 3,224,634 lb. the product from the pig for the whole colony. It may be noted here that whilst the number of pigs slaughtered by farmers and in factories in 1900 was 90,608 against 101,704 in 1899, the weight of bacon and ham produced is considerably greater than for 1900, being 7,685,446 lb. against 7,147,760 lb. in 1899. There is also an increase in the quantity of salt pork produced in 1900, being 310,374 lb. against 201,601 lb. in 1899. The reduction in quantity takes place in the fresh pork, the produce of 1900 being 385,698 lb. against 773,701 lb. for 1899. The butchers' product of 3,224,634 lb. for 1900 would be practically all fresh pork. The average weight of pigs killed in 1900 by farmers and in factories was 92½ lb., and in 1899 equalled 86 lb., and those by butchers for 1900 averaged 83 lb. each.

The consumption *per capita* of bacon and ham for 1900 was 12·32 lb. for this colony.

POULTRY.

The table on the page following gives information respecting the poultry kept by all persons making an agricultural return, but does not include poultry kept by persons having no cultivated area such as residents of towns and their suburbs.

C.

Petty Sessions District.	Fowls.	Ducks.	Geese.	Turkeys.	Other.	Eggs.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	Doz.
Allora	20,742	312	47	334	...	82,043
Beaudesert	12,166	573	134	514	27	62,020
Brisbane	15,996	1,875	144	28	44	54,463
Bundaberg	15,085	373	32	133	...	51,309
Cairns	7,913	234	47	53	29	33,614
Childers	8,136	453	94	28	37	33,120
Crow's Nest	9,998	50	294	25	...	17,212
Dalby	8,874	71	147	547	...	18,292
Dugandan	23,194	1,147	569	400	12	109,071
Esk	12,406	325	203	819	13	72,473
Gatton	33,850	1,304	969	758	92	177,966
Gympie	10,677	458	219	241	24	41,442
Harrisville	15,228	705	207	314	82	73,525
Highfields	16,488	236	157	42	2	57,456
Ingham	6,072	207	34	26	5	24,752
Ipswich	10,620	727	113	228	42	35,705
Killarney	6,860	420	63	124	90	24,854
Laidley	18,945	582	1,070	329	...	98,328
Logan	16,230	958	574	68	24	74,971
Mackay	17,085	713	82	168	55	50,163
Marburg	19,485	725	653	186	...	82,387
Maroochy	8,762	470	37	18	...	76,186
Maryborough	8,673	265	97	26	42	38,171
Nanango	6,093	135	69	190	3	19,331
Nerang	8,156	460	85	42	3	28,161
Redcliffe	10,919	467	44	30	30	55,763
Rosewood	14,593	556	172	594	3	65,379
Rockhampton	16,359	677	171	312	15	72,223
Roma	6,127	31	9	192	...	14,507
South Brisbane	6,868	1,194	109	4	...	31,339
Tiaro	9,057	206	131	140	85	36,510
Toowoomba	43,307	822	239	1,285	18	117,356
Warwick	30,044	1,219	518	2,981	256	117,105
All other districts	81,394	3,393	939	2,321	196	283,000
	556,402	22,343	8,472	13,500	1,229	2,230,197

No doubt if a full return of all poultry was obtainable the number of fowls would very considerably exceed the figures here published, but the results would probably not greatly affect the numbers of other kinds of poultry.

Fowls and turkeys show an increase, and ducks and geese a decrease over the numbers returned in 1899. In fowls the increase amounted to 53,562, and in turkeys to 2,663. There were 2,618 fewer ducks, and 2,305 fewer geese returned last year than in 1899.

Toowoomba, Gatton, Warwick, Dugandan, and Allora were the districts from which the largest returns of poultry were made. Turkeys would appear to thrive well at Warwick, as more than twice the number were found there as in any other district.

The total number of eggs returned was 2,230,197 dozen against 1,601,111 dozen, an increase in the number returned of 629,086 dozen. Considerable difficulty is experienced in obtaining the information, many owners of poultry not only keeping no record of the eggs obtained, but expressing their inability to even approximate an estimate as to the number. Less trouble, however, was experienced last year than in 1899, and this difficulty will be overcome.

HONEY AND WAX.

The efforts of the Apiarist were not very satisfactorily rewarded last year, as a decrease amounting to 15 per cent. in the number of hives, of 7 per cent. in the amount of honey, and 12 per cent. in the quantity of wax obtained was the result of the year's work.

Full particulars in each important district are furnished in the following table:—

Ca.

District.	No. of Hives.		Honey.	Average per Productive Hive.	Wax.	District.	No. of Hives.		Honey.	Average per Productive Hive.	Wax.
	Productive.	Non-Productive.					Productive.	Non-Productive.			
Beaudesert	152	34	lb.	lb.	lb.	Maroochy	851	57	lb.	lb.	lb.
Brisbane	1,021	106	4,488	30	299	Maryborough	446	89	13,655	31	871
Bundaberg	223	88	8,890	39	309	Nerang	572	11	53,473	93	869
Caboolture	1,046	131	39,678	38	1,047	Redcliffe	273	11	15,586	57	213
Cleveland	158	8	9,677	61	905	Rockhampton	440	74	39,622	90	835
Cook	253	...	14,902	59	482	Rosewood	210	91	9,230	44	290
Crow's Nest	420	86	30,568	73	592	South Brisbane	876	53	62,778	72	1,034
Dugandan	492	254	6,837	14	450	Tiaro	158	5	4,945	31	20
Esk	158	24	14,770	93	215	Toowoomba	498	295	12,058	24	279
Gatton	301	30	17,504	58	336	Warwick	571	28	22,379	39	234
Goodna	305	3	12,566	41	120	Woodford	247	9	7,725	31	176
Gympie	357	19	15,494	43	363	All other Districts	1,371	235	40,477	30	2,187
Harrisville	227	14	6,402	28	255						
Herberton	154	...	3,252	21	...	Total for 1900	15,125	2,107	789,349	52	19,862
Ipswich	324	21	13,790	43	546	Total for 1899	20,165	...	852,586	...	22,621
Killarney	809	226	105,540	130	1,516						
Laidley	274	18	9,031	33	370	Increase for 1900	...	...	...	...	...
Logan	1,653	28	72,933	44	2,334	Decrease for 1900	2,933	...	63,237	...	2,759
Marburg	280	59	12,122	43	498						

In the collection for 1900 discrimination has been made for the first time between productive and nonproductive hives, and the average return to each hive has been taken on the former only. As this was not the case in 1899, where comparisons are made with that year, both figures are quoted for 1900. In 1899, from 20,165 hives 852,586 lb. of honey and 22,621 lb. of wax were obtained, giving an average to each hive of 42 lb. of honey and 1·1 lb. of wax (all hives); the corresponding figures for 1900 were 17,232 hives, of which 15,125 were productive, yielding 789,349 lb. of honey and 19,862 lb. of wax, giving averages of 52 lb. of honey and 1·3 lb. of wax to each productive hive. The districts where more than 1,000 hives were returned were:—Logan, 1,681 hives, of which 1,653 were productive, yielding 72,933 lb. honey, 2,334 lb. of wax, giving averages of 44 and 1·4 to each productive hive respectively; this was an improvement on 1899 figures—namely, 1,485 hives, 55,389 lb. of honey, and 2,289 lb. of wax. In 1900 Caboolture returned 1,177 hives with 1,046 productive, 39,678 lb. of honey, and 1,047 lb. of wax, giving averages of 38 lb. of honey and 1·0 of wax. In 1899 the returns were 1,305 hives, 50,909 lb. of honey, and 2,025 lb. of wax, so that there was an all round decline last year in this district.

Brisbane in 1900 had 1,127 hives, 41,967 lb. of honey, and 982 lb. of wax—a relatively very small yield of wax, no doubt largely due to the sale in this district of a considerable quantity of section honey in the comb, the wax of which would be consequently lost. The average quantity of honey obtained to each productive hive was 41 lb.

By far the greatest weight of honey was gathered in the Killarney district, where there were 1,035 hives, of which 809 were productive, and these returned a much larger quantity of honey than any other district—namely, 105,540 lb., an average of 130 lb. of honey to each productive hive. The high average of honey gathered in this district is due to the presence of two large well-conducted apiaries, where the most approved scientific methods of dealing with bees are in vogue.

The exports of honey for each of the last three years were as follow:—

C.b.

HONEY EXPORTED.

Country.	1898.		1899.		1900.	
	lb.	£	lb.	£	lb.	£
United Kingdom	24,934	305	28,785	287	23,564	234
Australasia	176,628	1,924	80,913	826	107,655	1,068
Elsewhere	2,232	20	20,238	180	860	9
	203,794	2,249	129,936	1,293	132,079	1,311

The export for 1900 was slightly in excess of that for 1899, but considerably below that for 1898. The other colonies of Australasia are the principal recipients, although some small quantity goes to the United Kingdom. It is generally conceded that 1½d. per lb. at the apiary would pay, whilst experts are of opinion that at least 3d. per lb. gross would be obtainable in the European market, if only thoroughly good samples were offered, but herein is the difficulty. Unwise and dishonest producers and agents at times export honey of doubtful quality, with the result that not only are their own shipments unsaleable, but the prices for consignments of first-class quality are also adversely affected.

The colour, flavour, aroma, and density are all points dealt with in determining the quality of the article in the market, consequently they are points that require consideration in its production. Honey may be perfectly pure and unadulterated even by the artificial feeding of the bees, and yet come far short of the quality essential to success in the export market.

FOODSTUFFS IMPORTED.

The experience of the past five years shows that about £1,000,000 is annually sent out of the colony to purchase food for either man or beast, and in most cases it would be difficult to assign a satisfactory reason for its nonproduction within our border.

The following table shows the imports for five years of articles of this nature, classed under four principal heads:—

D.

Value of—	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	£	£	£	£	£
Grain, &c., and various Products thereof	681,161	649,253	645,426	640,765	589,948
Fruit	100,410	121,843	119,580	150,130	155,609
Vegetables	109,939	88,562	100,473	102,818	95,922
Other Products of Agriculture	109,488	161,549	168,980	163,698	184,148
	1,000,998	1,021,207	1,034,459	1,057,411	1,025,627

It is satisfactory to note that the total for 1900 is below that of either the two previous years, although slightly in excess of that for 1896 and 1897. During no year of the five has the import of grain and its products been so low, which is certainly further matter for congratulation, but at the same time

it is in this direction that further decreases must be looked for, as grain foods comprise more than one-half of all food importation. Of fruit a considerable amount of importation will always obtain since some varieties are not suited to the climate of much of Queensland, whilst with others the different seasons for ripening will induce their introduction, since fruit for the most part will not keep for any lengthened period. Information with respect to some of the principal articles of food imported and exported last year is furnished in the following table:—

D a.

(WHERE IMPORTS EXCEED EXPORTS.)

Items.	IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.		NET IMPORTS.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£
Barley	23,291 bshls.	3,480	...	...	23,291 bshls.	3,480
„ (Pearl)	29,960 lb.	175	14,200 lb.	140	15,760 lb.	35
Chaff	12,965 tons	58,684	128 tons	501	12,837 tons	58,183
Coffee	153,647 lb.	6,323	7,138 lb.	260	146,509 lb.	6,063
Hay	2,561 tons	12,328	274 tons	1,005	2,287 tons	11,323
Maize	247,449 bshls.	42,388	2,462 bshls.	378	244,987 bshls.	42,010
Oatmeal, &c.	526 tons	10,153	9 tons	274	517 tons	9,879
Oats	194,581 bshls.	28,759	...	...	194,581 bshls.	28,759
„ (Crushed)	6,449 pkgs.	6,891	...	...	6,449 pkgs.	6,891
Maizena and Cornflour	327,318 lb.	3,331	18,566 lb.	189	308,752 lb.	3,142
Onions	3,536 tons	19,083	2 tons	19	3,534 tons	19,064
Potatoes	16,001 „	64,831	59 „	278	15,942 „	64,553
Rice	8,607,081 lb.	45,768	470,408 lb.	2,539	8,136,673 lb.	43,229
Rye	398 bshls.	76	...	...	398 bshls.	76
Wheat	723,365 „	113,500	818 bshls.	74	722,547 „	113,426
Flour	32,552 tons	270,397	74 tons	719	32,478 tons	269,678
Malt	134,098 bshls.	44,724	1,209 bshls.	440	132,889 bshls.	44,284
Milk (Preserved)	1,513,752 lb.	29,604	51,053 lb.	1,090	1,462,699 lb.	28,514
Total ... ..	...	760,495	...	7,906	...	752,589

(WHERE EXPORTS EXCEED IMPORTS.)

Items.	IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.		NET EXPORTS.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£
Arrowroot	13,785 lb.	200	463,617 lb.	3,534	449,832 lb.	3,334
Bacon and Hams	15,130 „	545	1,657,805 „	45,846	1,642,675 „	45,301
Butter	21,108 „	1,016	1,389,250 „	51,729	1,368,142 „	50,713
Lard	528 „	11	264,122 „	4,633	263,594 „	4,622
Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs ... ..	...	125,515	...	274,724	...	149,209
Meat (all kinds, including Extract) ... ..	...	3,460	...	1,515,946	...	1,512,486
Green Fruit	275,820 pkgs.	77,030	1,160,990 pkgs.	104,387	885,170 pkgs.	27,357
Sugar	26 tons	550	62,843 tons	669,389	62,817 tons	668,839
Molasses	3 „	86	1,684 „	9,292	1,681 „	9,206
Oysters ... ..	...	...	11,041 pkgs.	13,845	11,041 pkgs.	13,845
Total ... ..	...	208,413	...	2,693,325	...	2,484,912

The table is divided into two sections. In one are grouped the articles of which imports exceed the exports, and in the other those with regard to which the opposite condition exists. With respect to the first section, comprising eighteen products of agriculture aggregating to a net import value of £752,589, except with regard to one article, there appears no satisfactory reason why they should not all be produced in the colony.

Flour and wheat, embracing together a sum of £383,104, should certainly be excluded from the list, as they are imported from countries where the average yield is frequently less than in Queensland, whilst the cost of land and of labour is certainly not less than with us. The same remarks to some extent apply to hay, chaff, oats, malt, onions, and potatoes, although with respect to some of these better yields are obtained in cooler climates.

With respect to rice there may perhaps remain something to be said, since it is imported from countries in which cheap labour is available, and, from the nature of the cultivation of lowland rice, its habitat consisting of swamp land, it does not lend itself to the use of implements of a labour-saving nature.

Whilst there is matter for regret that the first section of the table contains so lengthy a list, yet there is compensation to be found in the second section, where it is seen that the excess exports on ten items approximated £2,500,000. Meat of all kinds, including extract, comprised three-fifths of this, whilst sugar amounted to nearly £750,000.

LABOUR AND MACHINERY ON FARMS.

The form in which this information has been collected in 1900 has been somewhat varied from that of previous years. Prior to last year those engaged in dairying and in farming generally were all returned under one head, but an attempt was made in the return to discriminate between employers and their family actually engaged in farm work and their paid hands. The result did not prove satisfactory; notwithstanding every care to prevent it, a certain amount of duplication took place. For 1900 the form of return, whilst distinguishing between dairy and general farming, dropped the question of employer and employed, so that the details for the past two years are not exactly comparable.

The following table gives the results of the collection under the head for 1900 particulars respecting individual districts of importance being furnished.

E.

DISTRICT.	LABOUR.				VALUE OF MACHINERY AND IMPLEMENTS.			
	Farming.		Dairying.		Farming.	Dairying.	Irrigation.	Total.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	£	£	£	£
Allora	711	172	20	11	49,680	1,165	...	50,845
Ayr	971	9	...	...	7,095	...	11,100	18,195
Brisbane	908	70	75	63	11,596	2,390	40	14,026
Bundaberg	2,102	83	54	73	32,557	2,600	10,000	45,157
Childers	1,326	18	4	10	34,555	314	...	34,869
Dalby	417	35	10	7	13,828	593	...	14,421
Dugandan	645	84	2	1	16,321	2,000	...	18,321
Gatton	1,138	232	112	279	36,073	6,609	...	42,682
Gympie	361	28	91	87	10,647	3,773	550	14,970
Harrisville	514	40	18	96	16,094	2,484	...	18,578
Highfields	595	23	12	282	15,122	829	...	15,951
Killarney	299	...	...	4	14,600	157	...	14,757
Laidley	718	80	16	129	18,707	727	...	19,434
Logan	744	77	117	388	13,699	3,302	...	17,001
Mackay	2,579	29	9	28	49,565	462	415	50,442
Marburg	589	100	58	36	16,649	1,682	...	18,331
Redcliffe	505	40	84	133	10,285	1,922	...	12,207
Rockhampton	627	119	74	77	15,038	1,871	1,451	18,360
Toowoomba	1,730	112	47	273	68,593	2,545	130	71,268
Warwick	1,067	25	8	47	57,076	813	...	57,889
All other Districts	13,373	1,092	775	1,095	181,146	26,202	13,911	221,259
Total 1900	31,919	2,468	1,586	3,119	688,926	62,440	37,597	788,963
Total 1899	Males. 35,330		Females. 5,736		789,623			

There were not quite so many persons returned as engaged in farming pursuits in 1900 as in 1899, the numbers being 39,092 and 41,066 respectively, a decrease on the former year of 1,974, probably chiefly due to the duplication in 1899 above referred to. Of those in 1900, 33,505 were males and 5,587 were females, against 35,330 males and 5,736 females in 1899. In 1900, 34,387 persons were engaged in general farming, of whom 31,919 were males and 2,468 were females, and 4,705 were engaged exclusively in dairying, 1,586 males and 3,119 females, the latter, as might reasonably be expected, showing a considerable preponderance of women. Logan, Gatton, Toowoomba, and Highfields in the order named were the districts in which the largest number of persons were returned as dairying. The important sugar and wheat districts showing the largest number engaged in general farming.

Prior to 1900 the total value of all machinery and implements employed in agriculture was collected under one head only, whilst for that year details under the three heads—farming, dairying, and irrigation—were applied for. The total value of machinery and implements in 1900 was returned as slightly less than in 1899—namely, £788,963 in the former and £789,623 in the latter year, a decrease of £660.

Of the £788,963 worth of farmers' machinery and implements returned in 1900, £688,926 were employed in general farming, £62,440 in dairying, and £37,597 in irrigation. Ayr and Bundaberg were the only districts where any considerable amount of capital was invested in irrigation. In dairying Gatton stood first with an outlay of £6,609; the next, Gympie, having but little more than half that amount so employed, followed closely by Logan. Other districts having upwards of £2,000 so invested were Bundaberg, Toowoomba, Harrisville, Brisbane, and Dugandan. In machinery employed in general farming the wheat and sugar districts come to the front, as was the case with the number of hands employed. Toowoomba was at the head of the list with £68,593, then Warwick with £57,076, Allora with £49,680, Mackay with £49,565. There were altogether, including the foregoing, nineteen districts in which upwards of £10,000 were invested in machinery and implements for general farming.

IRRIGATION.

In my Report for 1899 I pointed out a serious falling off in the area of land under irrigation as compared with that of the previous years. For the past year, however, an increase appears of 658 acres, not a large advance, and still far short of the irrigated area given for 1898 of 9,648 acres.

Next year will probably show still greater advances in this direction, for I am informed that some of the large sugar estates in the Bundaberg and Mackay districts intend availing themselves of the copious supply of river water which has been hitherto allowed to run to waste in the sea, and have installed irrigation plants for the purpose of serving their canefields.

Every important sugar district has a large fresh-water river running through it, and it only requires the necessary appliances to put it on the land.

The pumping machinery and channels necessary for distributing water over a large district involve a very large outlay of capital, except to the estates having suitable frontages, and such capital would be beyond the means of individuals. But if combinations are effected by which whole districts are served, and rates or water charges levied, the cost would be arranged as in divisional and municipal works of a similar nature.

Irrigation works of this character would rank with sugar-mills, and the repayment of their cost could be spread over a term of years.

The area irrigated in Queensland for each year for the past ten years is as under:—

F.				F.			
Year.		Acres Irrigated.		Year.		Acres Irrigated.	
1891	3,869	1896	...	...	6,395
1892	3,840	1897	...	...	6,647
1893	5,287	1898	...	...	9,648
1894	5,846	1899	...	...	6,311
1895	6,447	1900	...	...	6,969

A table is appended showing the area of land irrigated during 1900, with the number of persons using same, source of supply, crops treated, &c.

Fa.
IRRIGATION.

Petty Sessions District in which Situated.	Number of Irrigators.	Acres Irrigated.	Original Source of Water Supply.	Means Employed for Procurement and Utilisation.	Crops Treated.	Remarks by Irrigator.
Aramac ...	2	6	Artesian bore ...	Gravitation ...	Garden ...	Newly planted.
Ayr ...	28	4,726	Plantation Creek, wells, lagoons	Steam pumps, centrifugals, trenches, gravitation, flooding	Sugar-cane, maize, potatoes, general crops.	
Banana ...	1	1	River ...	Windmill, pumps, pipes	Fruit trees, vegetables.	Orange trees look very healthy.
Barcardine ...	16	683	Artesian bore ...	Pumps, gravitation	Wheat, oats, vegetables, and couch grass	
Blackall ...	7	40	Bore, lagoons ...	Water lifters, pumping, gravitation, drains	Vegetables, artificially sown grasses, gardens.	One acre, only just commenced to irrigate.
Bollon ...	4	21	Artesian bore, Wallum Creek	Gravitation, pumps, drains	Wheat, lucerne, fruit, vegetables.	
Bowen ...	13	126	Don River, Euri Creek, wells	Steam pumps, windmills, pipes, drains	Maize, fruit trees.	Young cane looks well where irrigated. Only used irrigation plant to save maize which yielded fairly.
Brisbane ...	1	20	Creek ...	Gravitation, steam pumps	Potatoes, fruit trees.	
Bundaberg ...	3	150	Burnett River, wells	Steam pumps, windmills, pipes, trenches, drains	Sugar-cane, vegetables.	Orange trees look very healthy.
Burke ...		9	Wood's Lake ...	Pumps, horse-power	Potatoes, pumpkins, cabbages.	
Cairns ...	2	13	Barron River, creek	Steam pumps, pipes, hose	General crops, vegetables	One acre, only just commenced to irrigate.
Cape River ...	11	49	Betts Creek, Cape River, wells	Windmill, pumps, troughs, drains	Vegetables, fruit.	
Charleville ...	5	16	Warrego River, artesian bore	Steam pumps, whims, pipes	Maize, pumpkins, fruit trees, green products.	Orange trees look very healthy.
Charters Towers	9	33	Wells ...	Steam pumps, windmills, pipes, drains, horse pumps	Oranges, vines, lemons.	
Clermont ...	2	5	Wells ...	Pumps (horse), drains, windmills	Fruit trees, vegetables	Orange trees look very healthy.
Cleveland ...	1	4	Wells ...	Windmill, pumps, hose, pipes	Oranges.	
Cloncurry ...	5	14	Well and bores	Horse pumps, gravitation	Vegetables.	Orange trees look very healthy.
Cook ...	1	6	Wells ...	Chain pumps, drains	Oranges.	
Cunnamulla ...	2	30	Artesian bore ...	Gravitation, drains	Lucerne, oats, Johnston grass.	Orange trees look very healthy.
Emerald ...	3	9	Wells ...	Pumps, pipes, drains	Vegetables, fruit trees.	
Etheridge ...	1	3	Wells ...	Windmill, pipes, drains	Fruit trees.	Orange trees look very healthy.
Gympie ...	2	42	Pie Creek, Lagoons	Steam and horse pumps, pipes, drains	Maize, millet, sweet potatoes, vegetables.	
Herberton ...	2	4	Springs ...	Gravitation, trenches	Vegetables.	Orange trees look very healthy.
Hughenden ...	10	143	Flinders River, wells	Steam, horse pumps, drains	Maize, potatoes, oranges, vegetables.	
Hungerford...	2	56	Bore...	Gravitation, drains	Wheat and lucerne.	Orange trees look very healthy.
Ingham ...	1	5	Well...	Gravitation, force pumps, drains	Orchards, garden.	
Isisford ...	2	4	Thomson River	Windmill, gravitation, drains	Market gardens.	Orange trees look very healthy.
Ipswich ...	1	10	Bremer River	Windmill, pumps	Vegetables.	
Mackay ...	5	229	Pioneer River, creeks, wells	Steam pumps, gravitation, drains	Sugar-cane, gardens, orchards	Young cane looks well where irrigated. Only used irrigation plant to save maize which yielded fairly.
Maroochy ...	1	1	Dam...	Steam pumps, drains, hose	Maize	
Muttaborra...	4	30	Bore, Landsborough and Thomson Rivers	Steam pumps, gravitation, drains	Maize, oats, potatoes, vegetables.	Orange trees look very healthy.
Nerang ...	1	30	Waterholes	Steam pumps, gravitation, drains	Orange trees.	
Ravenswood	2	4	Wells ...	Steam pumps, windmill, pipes	Vegetables.	Orange trees look very healthy.
Rockhampton	13	86	Fitzroy River, creeks, wells	Steam, horse pumps	Lucerne, fruits, maize.	
Roma ...	1	28	Bungil Creek	Steam pumps, windmill, pipes, drains	Fruit trees, vegetables.	Orange trees look very healthy.
St. George ...	5	27	Barron River, wells	Steam and horse pumps, gravitation, pipes, drains	Fruit trees, vegetables.	
South Brisbane	2	25	Broadwater, Bulimba Creek	Steam pumps, channels, pipes	Maize, oats, potatoes, nursery garden.	Orange trees look very healthy.
Stanthorpe ..	2	12	Quartpot Creek	Steam pumps, gravitation, hose, drains	Fruit trees, vegetables.	
Taroom ...	1	2	Dawson River	Windmill, drains	Grapes, orange trees.	Orange trees look very healthy.
Thargomindah	1	3	Toompine Creek	Horse pumps, flooding	Pumpkins, vines, vegetables.	
Tiaro ...	2	6	Clifton Creek, dam	Force pumps, hose, pipes	Orange trees, vegetables.	Orange trees look very healthy.
Townsville ...	38	255	Ross River, wells...	Steam and horse pumps, flooding	Lucerne, vegetables, general crops.	
Windorah ...	2	3	Thomson River	Horse pumps, drains	Vegetables.	Orange trees look very healthy.
Total ...	219	6,969				

Contrasting this return with the similar one for the previous year, it will be seen that increases have taken place at—Barcaldine, 488 acres; Bundaberg, 150 acres; Mackay, 136 acres; Townsville, 130 acres; whilst the districts showing the largest decreases are—Ayr, 99 acres; Cunnamulla, 96 acres; and Blackall, 79 acres.

F b.

Petty Sessions District in which Situated.	Acres Irrigated, 1899.	Acres Irrigated, 1900.	Increase.	Decrease.
			Acres.	Acres.
Ayr	4,825	4,726	...	99
Barcaldine	195	683	488	...
Blackall	119	40	...	79
Bowen	109	126	17	...
Brisbane	24	20	...	4
Bundaberg ... ..	...	150	150	...
Cape River	23	49	26	...
Charleville	35	16	...	19
Charters Towers	28	33	5	...
Cook	45	6	...	39
Croydon	24	...	...	24
Cunnamulla	126	30	...	96
Gympie ... ..	...	42	42	...
Hughenden	151	143	...	8
Hungerford	21	56	35	...
Mackay	93	229	136	...
Muttaburra	23	30	7	...
Rockhampton	104	86	...	18
Roma	22	28	6	...
St. George	31	27	...	4
South Brisbane	27	25	...	2
Surat	12	...	...	12
Townsville	125	255	130	...
Other Districts	149	169	20	...
Total	6,311	6,969	1,062	404
Less Decrease in Certain Districts ...			404	
Net Increase			658	

The decrease in area irrigated in Ayr is, I understand, owing to a restriction on one of the large estates there, where land, lying too high for the water to reach easily, has been thrown out of cultivation. The reduction in Cunnamulla district is owing to the drought being so severe as to render irrigation useless, except for very small areas.

In seven of the districts, water from artesian bores has been used for irrigation.

It would seem that much could be done by utilising water from these sources for irrigation purposes, and doubtless more will be done as the profit to be gained thereby becomes more apparent. At present, undoubtedly, the sugar districts offer the greatest inducements to large irrigation works, systematically carried out, by which the cane could be kept growing all the time instead of suffering from serious checks to its growth as is the case where no water is artificially supplied.

In many countries irrigation is a necessary condition to the production of crops, and the command of a copious supply of water which can be applied to the growing crops as desired will do much to counteract the effects of droughts such as the one of 1900.

If we look at the difference between the sugar crop of 1900 and that of 1898, equalling 71,180 tons, we find that it represents a loss to the sugar producers, at say £11 per ton, of no less than £782,980. If the 1900 crop could have been brought up to what it was in 1898 by means of irrigation, a large amount of money now lost would have been saved, and the cost of watering amply repaid.

Undoubtedly irrigation, now in its infancy in Queensland, is one of immense importance and capable of most profitable development.

WHEAT.

The result of the wheat harvest for the season just past discloses a satisfactory yield of grain and a remarkable absence of rust, as compared with the previous years. Whilst the weather experienced has been drier than most farmers would desire, rain has fallen in most districts in sufficient time and quantity to save the crop and yield a satisfactory return.

The total areas of wheat land reaped for the past four years is as under, the areas upon which the crop failed completely, and that cut for green fodder being excluded :—

Year.	HAY.		GRAIN.	
	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Busbels.
1897...	5,898	7,820	59,875	1,009,293
1898...	2,664	2,424	46,219	607,012
1899...	26,047	33,891	52,527	614,414
1900...	8,019	9,337	79,304	1,194,088

The area cut for hay was less by 18,028 acres for 1900, and the quantity of hay obtained less by 24,554 tons. This is explained by the fact that in 1899 severe frosts were experienced in the wheat growing districts, which induced many of the farmers to cut their crops for hay, being of opinion that they would not bear grain. This led to an altogether abnormal quantity of wheaten hay being made in 1899. Happily no frost was experienced in 1900 to affect such large areas, and the quantity of hay made, though still large, is not excessive.

The area reaped for grain in 1900 was 79,304 acres, yielding 1,194,088 bushels, being an increase on the figures of 1899 of 26,777 acres, and of 579,674 bushels, or nearly twice the quantity of grain.

The total area of land under wheat in Queensland in 1900 was, exclusive of that cut for green fodder:—

Mown for hay...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Acres. 8,019
Reaped for grain	...	...	...	...	...	...	79,304
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	87,323
Against the area for 1899 of	...	...	...	...	...	...	78,574
Being an increase for 1900 of	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,749

Rust in grain (wheat) was very little in evidence during the past year as only 77 acres were returned as so affected. Whether this resulted from the more favourable weather, there being long intervals of very dry weather this year, or from the use of seed of a rust-proof variety, I am not aware. Rust in hay affected 319 acres, or 4 per cent. of the whole area, whilst the area for grain was only affected to the extent of 0.10 per cent. of the total acreage.

The following table contrasts the areas affected by rust for the past four years:—

Year.		Bushels.	Bushels per acre.
1897—23,932 acres affected by rust yielded	...	376,410	15.73
1898—2,877	" "	34,012	11.82
1899—5,610	" "	63,712	11.36
1900—77	" "	895	11.62

So that for 1900 it may be said that the wheat crop of Queensland was practically free from rust. The areas and yield of grain free from rust during the past four years were as follow:—

Year.		Bushels.	Bushels per acre.
1897—33,856 acres free from rust yielded	...	632,883	18.69
1898—43,342	" "	573,000	13.22
1899—46,917	" "	550,702	11.74
1900—79,227	" "	1,193,193	15.06

The average yield of grain for the whole of Queensland, both clean and rusted, was 15.06 bushels per acre, for although rusted wheat averaged only 11.62 bushels per acre the quantity was too small to affect the average on the whole. As the average yield of grain per acre for 1899 was 11.70 bushels, the yield of 1900 exceeded it by 3.36 bushels per acre, whilst the total yield of grain exceeded that for 1899 by 579,674 bushels.

The subjoined table shows the returns for the past ten years, the average yield per acre for that time being 15.31 bushels per acre, so that the past year is scarcely up to the average.

G. WHEAT (GRAIN) RETURNS. RETURN FOR TEN YEARS.

	FREE FROM RUST.			AFFECTED WITH RUST.			TOTAL.		
	Acres.	Produce.	Average per Acre.	Acres.	Produce.	Average per Acre.	Acres.	Produce.	Average per Acre.
		Bushels.	Bushels.		Bushels.	Bushels.		Bushels.	Bushels.
1891	17,190	363,425	21.14	1,545	28,884	18.70	18,735	392,309	20.94
1892	29,289	433,941	14.82	1,618	28,642	17.70	30,907	462,583	14.97
1893	24,632	370,667	15.05	3,779	42,427	11.23	28,411	413,094	14.54
1894	20,596	422,973	20.54	7,395	122,212	16.53	27,991	545,185	19.48
1895	10,549	109,947	10.42	2,401	13,683	5.70	12,950	123,630	9.55
1896	34,164	598,052	17.51	506	3,202	6.33	34,670	601,254	17.34
1897	33,856	632,883	18.69	23,932	376,410	15.73	57,788	1,009,293	17.47
1898	43,342	573,000	13.22	2,877	34,012	11.82	46,219	607,012	13.13
1899	46,917	550,702	11.74	5,610	63,712	11.36	52,527	614,414	11.70
1900	79,227	1,193,193	15.06	77	895	11.62	79,304	1,194,088	15.06
Ten Years	339,762	5,248,783	15.45	49,740	714,079	14.36	389,502	5,962,862	15.31

The quantity and average yield of wheat in the following places is as under:—

	Bushels.	Average.
United States of America	522,229,505	12.29
Argentina	99,076,337	12.53
New South Wales (preliminary)	16,069,363	10.60
Victoria (preliminary)	17,790,576	8.84
Manitoba	...	8.90

A table is given below showing the area reaped for grain in each petty sessions district in the colony, and from it will be seen that the Darling Downs is the greatest wheat-growing centre in the colony.

The total area of land under wheat in the Southern division of the colony and east of the Main Range is practically the same as for the previous year, the increase being only 18 acres, the increase of yield is, however, considerable, being 15,127 bushels for 1900, against 11,520 bushels for 1899, whilst the average yield was 19.37 bushels per acre for 1900, against 15.10 bushels per acre for 1899.

Nanango is the largest wheat-growing district in this portion of the division, 482 acres yielding 9,578 bushels, or an average of 19.87 bushels per acre.

In this division of the colony, but west of the Main Range, the bulk of the wheat is grown, Allora coming first with 21,378 acres for 317,770 bushels, followed by Toowoomba with 18,602 acres for 300,860 bushels. Warwick comes third with 14,909 acres for 254,394 bushels. A considerable increase has been made at Dalby, where over 3,000 additional acres have been reaped for wheat.

The total area in the western portion of the Southern division for 1900 was 78,181 acres for 1,175,945 bushels, or an average of 15·04 bushels per acre, as against 51,539 acres yielding 597,855 bushels, or an average of 11·60 bushels per acre for 1899.

The areas in the Central division are small, 280 acres at Springsure yielding 2,518 bushels, or an average of 8·99 bushels per acre out of a total for the whole Central district of 342 acres for 3,016 bushels, or an average of 8·82 bushels per acre, none of which is returned as affected by rust.

Great hopes are entertained of this portion of the colony becoming a large producer of wheat, as the soil was stated to be extremely suitable, but the drought which has held the country in its iron grasp for the past two or more years has effectually checked all agricultural enterprise. With a return of good seasons a revival of agricultural experiments on these rich lands may be confidently looked for, and a yield obtained sufficient to repay the husbandmen and encourage further enterprise.

In the Northern division no wheat was grown.

G a.

RETURN for the YEAR 1900, showing the EXTENT of LAND REAPED for GRAIN in the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS from which RETURNS have been received, also the AREA affected with RUST, free from RUST, and the PRODUCE.

Petty Sessions Districts.	RESULTS.								
	FREE FROM RUST.			AFFECTED WITH RUST.			TOTAL.		
	Acres.	Produce.	Average per Acre.	Acres.	Produce.	Average per Acre.	Total Extent of Land Reaped for Grain.	Produce.	Average per Acre.
		Bushels.	Bushels.		Bushels.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels
SOUTHERN.									
<i>East of Main Range—</i>									
Biggenden	1	15	15·00	...	...	...	1	15	15·00
Caboolture	1	20	20·00	...	...	...	1	20	20·00
Crow's Nest (part of)	177	3,365	19·01	5	8	1·60	182	3,373	18·53
Dugandan	3	75	25·00	3	72	24·00	6	147	24·50
Esk	2	40	20·00	...	...	...	2	40	20·00
Gayndah	60	1,067	17·78	2	33	16·50	62	1,100	19·37
Gayndah	10	194	19·40	...	...	...	10	194	19·40
Gin Gin ... ..	...	...	...	5	20	4·00	5	20	4·00
Gympie	1	20	20·00	...	...	...	1	20	20·00
Harrisville	3	40	13·33	...	...	...	3	40	13·33
Laidley	21	510	24·29	...	...	...	21	510	24·29
Logan	2	20	10·00	...	...	...	2	20	10·00
Nanango	481	9,576	19·91	1	2	2·00	482	9,578	19·87
Nerang	3	50	16·67	...	...	...	3	50	16·67
Totals	765	14,992	19·60	16	135	8·44	781	15,127	19·37
<i>West of Main Range—</i>									
Allora	21,378	317,770	14·87	...	...	...	21,378	317,770	14·87
Condamine	142	1,988	14·00	...	...	...	142	1,988	14·00
Crow's Nest (part of)	264	4,494	17·00	...	...	...	264	4,494	17·00
Dalby	6,999	102,581	14·66	...	...	...	6,999	102,581	14·66
Highfields	3,010	52,579	17·47	...	...	...	3,010	52,579	17·47
Inglewood	494	7,504	15·19	...	...	...	494	7,504	15·19
Killarney	3,515	59,629	16·97	...	...	...	3,515	59,629	16·97
Mitchell	1,260	13,808	10·96	26	264	10·15	1,286	14,072	10·92
Roma	5,442	39,809	7·31	...	...	...	5,442	39,809	7·31
Stanthorpe	78	854	10·95	...	...	...	78	854	10·95
Texas	257	3,161	12·30	...	...	...	257	3,161	12·30
Toowoomba	18,572	300,414	16·18	30	446	14·87	18,602	300,860	16·17
Warwick	14,904	254,344	17·07	5	50	10·00	14,909	254,394	17·06
Yeulba	1,805	16,250	9·00	...	...	...	1,805	16,250	9·00
Totals	78,120	1,175,185	15·04	61	760	12·46	78,181	1,175,945	15·04
Totals Southern	78,885	1,190,177	15·09	77	895	11·62	78,962	1,191,072	15·08
CENTRAL.									
Clermont	13	53	4·08	...	...	...	13	53	4·08
Emerald	45	350	7·78	...	...	...	45	350	7·78
Rockhampton	4	95	23·75	...	...	...	4	95	23·75
Springsure	280	2,518	8·99	...	...	...	280	2,518	8·99
Total Central	342	3,016	8·82	...	...	...	342	3,016	8·82
NORTHERN.									
Total Northern ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Colony	79,227	1,193,193	15·06	77	895	11·62	79,304	1,194,088	15·06

A table is given below showing the areas and yields of wheaten hay for the petty sessions districts. In that portion of the Southern division of the colony to the eastward of the Main Range, 709 acres yielded 1,275 tons of hay or an average of 1·80 tons per acre for 1900, as compared with 1,158 acres, yielding 1,698 tons, or 1·47 tons per acre in 1899—a considerable reduction in both area and yield.

In the western portion of the division the returns fell from 24,717 acres, yielding 31,932 tons of hay in 1899, to 7,062 acres, yielding 7,728 tons in 1900; the cause being the frost of 1899 compelling many farmers to cut the wheat crops for hay which they had intended to reap for grain.

In the Central division there were 236 acres yielding 317 tons, or an average of 1·34 tons per acre for 1900, against 172 acres yielding 261 tons, or an average of 1·52 tons per acre for 1899.

In the Northern districts for 1900 there were 12 acres yielding 17 tons of hay, as against no returns for the previous year.

WHEAT (HAY) RETURNS, 1900.

Petty Sessions Districts.	FREE FROM RUST.			AFFECTED WITH RUST.			TOTAL.		
	Acres.	Produce.	Average per Acre.	Acres.	Produce.	Average per Acre.	Acres.	Produce.	Average per Acre.
		Tons.	Tons.		Tons.	Tons.		Tons.	Tons.
SOUTHERN.									
<i>East of Main Range—</i>									
Beaudesert	7	15	2·14	...	...	...	7	15	2·14
Biggenden	12	15	1·25	2	2	1·00	14	17	1·21
Brisbane	2	4	2·00	...	...	...	2	4	2·00
Bundaberg	1	2	2·00	7	12	1·71	8	14	1·75
Childers	1	3	3·00	...	...	...	1	3	3·00
Crow's Nest (part of)	29	33	1·14	1	3	3·00	30	36	1·20
Dugandan	14	22	1·57	8	30	3·75	22	52	2·36
Gatton	254	474	1·87	17	33	1·94	271	507	1·87
Gayndah	14	16	1·14	...	...	...	14	16	1·14
Gympie	12	22	1·83	17	28	1·65	29	50	1·72
Harri-ville	12	26	2·17	5	6	1·20	17	32	1·88
Ipswich	2	4	2·00	2	2	1·00	4	6	1·50
Laidley	119	228	1·92	4	8	2·00	123	236	1·92
Logan	2	4	2·00	1	2	2·00	3	6	2·00
Marburg	7	11	1·57	...	...	...	7	11	1·57
Maryborough	35	75	2·14	3	2	0·67	38	77	2·03
Nanango	99	157	1·59	...	...	...	99	157	1·59
Nerang	3	6	2·00	...	...	...	3	6	2·00
Redcliffe	1	2	2·00	...	...	...	1	2	2·00
Rosewood	1	2	2·00	...	...	...	1	2	2·00
South Brisbane	1	1	1·00	...	...	...	1	1	1·00
Tiaro	6	12	2·00	3	4	1·33	9	16	1·78
Woodford	5	9	1·80	...	...	...	5	9	1·80
Total	639	1,143	1·79	70	132	1·89	709	1,275	1·80
<i>West of Main Range—</i>									
Allora	734	725	0·99	19	29	1·53	753	754	1·00
Bollon	3	4	1·33	...	...	...	3	4	1·33
Crow's Nest (part of)	13	14	1·08	...	...	...	13	14	1·08
Cunnamulla	4	4	1·00	210	660	3·14	214	664	3·10
Dalby	239	266	1·11	1	1	1·00	240	267	1·11
Goondiwindi	278	392	1·41	...	...	...	278	392	1·41
Highfields	315	452	1·43	...	...	...	315	452	1·43
Hungerford	48	36	0·75	...	...	...	48	36	0·75
Inglewood	177	302	1·71	...	...	...	177	302	1·71
Killarney	23	16	0·70	...	...	...	23	16	0·70
Mitchell	375	259	0·69	...	...	...	375	259	0·69
Roma	2,108	1,748	0·83	...	...	...	2,108	1,748	0·83
St. George	290	264	0·91	...	...	...	290	264	0·91
Stanthorpe	29	22	0·76	...	...	...	29	22	0·76
Surat	136	203	1·49	...	...	...	136	203	1·49
Texas	131	182	1·39	...	...	...	131	182	1·39
Toowoomba	964	1,115	1·16	6	12	2·00	970	1,127	1·16
Warwick	652	708	1·09	5	10	2·00	657	718	1·09
Yeulba	302	304	1·01	...	...	...	302	304	1·01
Total	6,821	7,016	1·03	241	712	2·95	7,062	7,728	1·09
Total Southern	7,460	8,159	1·09	311	844	2·71	7,771	9,003	1·16
CENTRAL.									
Barcaldine	70	120	1·71	...	...	...	70	120	1·71
Clermont	44	11	0·25	...	...	...	44	11	0·25
Emerald	30	28	0·93	...	...	...	30	28	0·93
Gladstone	5	8	1·60	...	...	...	5	8	1·60
Rockhampton	6	5	0·83	5	7	1·40	11	12	1·09
Springsure	76	138	1·82	...	...	...	76	138	1·82
Total Central	231	310	1·34	5	7	1·40	236	317	1·34
NORTHERN.									
Herberton	4	4	1·00	...	...	...	4	4	1·00
Mackay (less Nebo collection)	5	9	1·80	3	4	1·33	8	13	1·62
Total Northern	9	13	1·44	3	4	1·33	12	17	1·42
Total Colony	7,700	8,482	1·10	319	855	2·68	8,019	9,337	1·17

The quantity of breadstuffs imported into and exported from Queensland during 1900 are given in the subjoined table, the net value being £389,347 of imports over exports:—

H.
BREADSTUFFS.

ITEM.	IMPORTED.		EXPORTED.		NET IMPORTS.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£
Flour (tons)	32,552	270,397	74	719	32,478	269,678
Wheat (bushels)	723,365	113,500	818	74	722,547	113,426
Biscuits (lb.)	174,563	6,633	19,591	390	154,972	6,243
Total ... ..	...	390,530	...	1,183	...	389,347

The net imports of flour, wheat, biscuits, for the past three years, were as under :—

H a.

1898.			1899.			1900.		
Flour	... 32,249 tons	= £372,931	33,505 tons	= £274,543	32,478 tons	= £269,678		
Wheat	... 315,289 bushels	= 64,845	651,342 bushels	= 102,814	722,547 bushels	= 113,426		
Biscuits	... 148,753 lb.	= 6,000	145,247 lb.	= 5,504	154,972 lb.	= 6,243		
£448,776			£382,861			£389,347		

from which will be seen that whilst the total value for these three items imported during 1900 exceeded by £6,486 the value of 1899, they fell considerably short of the importations of 1898.

It is a curious fact that the largest yield in previous years of wheat in Queensland (that of 1897 with 1,009,293 bushels) should be followed by the heaviest value of importation in 1898, but if we look at the quantities imported we find the increase to be in values and not in quantities, the number of bushels of wheat imported in 1899 being nearly double those of 1898.

The net quantity of flour imported during 1900 was 1,027 tons less than in 1899, whilst the net importation of wheat is greater in 1900 by 71,205 bushels than in 1899. Biscuits too show an excess of 9,725 lb. more in 1900 than in the previous year.

The average value of flour imported during 1900 is given at £8 6s. 2½d. per ton and that of wheat at 3s. 1¾d. per bushel.

In order to estimate the proportion which the quantities of breadstuffs grown in the colony bear to the whole consumption the following table has been prepared, showing the quantity of wheat and flour imported into Queensland for each of the past five years, together with the wheat grown in Queensland and the total.

The ton of flour has this year been taken to be the equivalent for 50 bushels of wheat, that being the basis used in some other places, and possibly more nearly accurate than the formula hitherto adopted.

The tables of previous years have been altered to the same basis.

H b.

WHEAT IMPORTS.

Year.						Imported.	Grown in Queensland.	Total.
						Net Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1896	...	...	...	...	...	2,509,707	601,254	3,110,961
1897	...	...	...	...	...	1,932,216	1,009,293	2,941,509
1898	...	...	...	...	...	1,925,405	607,012	2,532,417
1899	...	...	...	...	...	2,326,592	614,414	2,941,006
1900	...	...	...	...	...	2,346,447	1,194,088	3,540,535

NOTE :—For the purposes of this Statement the flour imported has been converted into wheat on the basis of 1 ton flour = 50 bushels wheat.

From this it will be seen that the production of wheat in Queensland for 1900 has equalled 33·7 per cent. of the total amount required for the use of its people, as against 22·4 per cent. in 1899, and 25·9 in 1898.

The effect of the good harvest of 1900 will not of course be felt until later in the present year, when it will have the effect of diminishing the importation of these articles of food.

Taking the area sown with wheat in 1900 as a basis, there will be 76,403 bushels of wheat required for seed during the present year.

During the year 1900 there have been sixteen milling establishments in operation in Queensland, of which full particulars are given in the subjoined table :—

H c.

District.	Number of Establishments.	Number of Hands Employed.	Number of Stones.	Number of Rollers.	Wheat Treated.	FLOUR MADE.		MEAL MADE.		BRAN AND POLLARD.	
						Tons.	Value.	Tons.	Value.	Bushels.	Value.
			Pairs.	Sets.	Bushels.		£		£		£
Metropolitan ...	5	98	4	43	509,696	10,404	81,793	86	733	461,296	23,064
Allora and Warwick...	4	31	...	24	180,605	3,510	27,201	23	172	174,928	8,855
Toowoomba ...	3	39	...	29	277,904	5,504	39,431	7	49	256,889	12,114
Elsewhere ...	4	28	2	36	201,023	3,929	33,815	38	433	206,680	11,312
	16	196	6	132	1,169,228	23,347	182,240	154	1,387	1,099,793	55,345

At some of the above establishments but little wheat is treated, the factories being principally devoted to treating other grain. Information respecting Grain Mills will be found in the Statistical Register.

These establishments employed 196 men, had 6 pairs of stones, and 132 sets of rollers in operation. The quantity of wheat treated was 1,169,228 bushels, from which 23,347 tons of flour were made, of the value of £182,240; also 154 tons of meal and 1,099,793 bushels of bran and pollard.

The five mills in the metropolitan district treated nearly one-half the total amount of wheat gristed.

The weight of wheat imported during 1900 was a little over one-half the weight of the flour imported during the same period.

BARLEY.

There has been a considerable increase in the area of land under Barley for the past year as compared with 1899, there being 3,328 acres more under crop for the past year. The increase appears principally under the area cut for green food, which is 7,125 acres for 1900 as compared with 3,697 acres for 1899. Probably some of this is due to the dry weather experienced, which made farmers utilise the crop early instead of waiting for grain. The area mown for hay is less for the past year, being 461 acres against 620 acres in 1899. The area reaped for grain is slightly larger for the past year, being 7,533 acres for 1900 against 7,474 acres in 1899. This area would probably have been greater but for the reasons already given.

The acreage under this crop for the last two years was as under :—

I.

	1899.	1900.
	Acres.	Acres.
Reaped for Grain	7,474	7,533
Mown for Hay	620	461
Cut for Green Food	3,697	7,125
	11,791	15,119

The increase under all heads for 1900 being 3,328 acres.

The following table contrasts the area, produce, and average yield per acre for the past and previous years for grain only, by which it will be seen that there was an increase in 1900 of 59 acres in area, 8,701 bushels in yield, and 1·03 bushels in average yield per acre above the relative figures in 1899 :—

I a.

Year.	Area for Grain.	Produce.	Average Produce per Acre.
	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1899	7,474	118,443	15·85
1900	7,533	127,144	16·88
Increase in 1900	59	8,701	1·03
Decrease in 1900 ... ..	...	...	...

A table is given below showing the districts in which barley is grown for grain, distinguishing the malting barley from that of other varieties :—

I b.

RETURN showing the AREA under BARLEY, exclusive of HAY and GREEN CROPS, and the YIELD of GRAIN obtained therefrom during the Year 1900.

District.	Malting Grain.			Other Varieties Grain.		
	Acres.	Bushels.	Average per Acre.	Acres.	Bushels.	Average per Acre.
			Bushels.			Bushels.
Allora	987	18,348	18·59	184	1,966	10·68
Crow's Nest, part of*	78	1,566	20·08	6	148	24·67
Crow's Nest, part of†	58	972	16·76	1	40	40·00
Dalby	500	5,526	11·05	26	695	26·73
Dugandan	9	92	10·22	6	168	28·00
Emerald	10	112	11·20	...	...	...
Gatton	98	1,636	16·69	4	87	21·75
Harrisville	18	330	18·33	11	120	10·91
Highfields	664	13,921	20·97	37	782	21·14
Killarney	344	6,860	19·94	14	260	18·57
Laidley	29	824	28·41	...	...	...
Nanango	13	260	20·00	2	51	25·50
Toowoomba	2,289	37,915	16·56	622	11,663	18·75
Warwick	1,200	19,521	16·27	301	2,958	9·83
Yeulba	5	27	5·40	...	...	...
All Other Districts ... ..	...	...	...	17	296	17·41
Total	6,302	107,910	17·12	1,231	19,234	15·62

* East of Main Range.

† West of Main Range.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the largest area under malting barley is at Toowoomba, with 2,289 acres yielding 37,915 bushels, being a decrease of area compared with 1899 of 197 acres, but an increase of 1,027 bushels in the crop. Toowoomba also returns the largest area of "other barley," 622 acres yielding 11,663 bushels. The Warwick district is the next largest producer, where 1,200 acres yielded 19,521 bushels for 1900 against 912 acres yielding 20,238 bushels for 1899. An increase in area and yield is shown for Allora, where the area for malting barley in 1899 was 690 acres, yielding 10,429 bushels, and has increased in 1900 to 987 acres, yielding 18,348 bushels.

The highest average yield per acre is shown at Laidley, where 28·41 bushels per acre were recorded for malting barley, the area, however, being only 29 acres. Amongst the large areas Highfields records an average yield of 20·97 bushels per acre in malting barley, and 21·14 bushels in "other varieties." Notwithstanding the fact that drought has been in evidence to some extent, the yield of 17·12 bushels per acre for malting barley over the whole colony and 15·62 bushels for "other varieties" may be regarded as fairly satisfactory.

MALTING BARLEY.

The area of land under malting barley has increased from 6,011 acres, yielding 100,027 bushels in 1899 to 6,302 acres, yielding 107,910 bushels in 1900, an increase of 291 acres and 7,883 bushels for the past year. The average yield has also increased from 16·64 bushels per acre in 1899 to 17·12 bushels per acre in 1900.

As in previous years the bulk of the malting barley is grown in that portion of the Southern division of the colony which lies to the westward of the Main Range, the areas under the crop in the eastern portion being small. In the Central division 10 acres only are returned, namely, at Emerald.

The quantity of malt imported into Queensland for 1900 was 134,098 bushels, of the value of £44,724. There was also imported 23,291 bushels of barley, value £3,480.

The following statement shows the amount of malt made from Queensland grown grain and from imported grain during the past three years, and it may be pointed out that as the harvest in Queensland is gathered in November and December, the malt made from locally grown grain is from the crop of the previous year, since it would be impossible for maltsters to have operated to any extent, if at all, on the crop only just reaped :—

I c.

Year.						Made from Imported Barley.	Made from Queensland Barley.	Total Malt Made.
						Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1898	...	...	...	...	...	12,278	20,351	32,629
1899	...	...	...	...	...	42,851	19,420	62,271
1900	...	...	...	...	...	15,337	57,393	72,730

It will be seen from the above that whilst in 1898 62 per cent. of the total quantity of malt made in Queensland was from locally grown grain, and in 1899 there was 31 per cent. so made, that in 1900 79 per cent. of the total quantity was from Queensland barley.

As the crop of malting barley for 1899 was returned at 100,027 bushels, it follows therefore that 57,393 bushels of it were malted, being about 57 per cent. of the crop, the balance presumably being otherwise disposed of.

Of the 23,291 bushels of barley imported, only 20 bushels were returned as being malting barley, and of the total quantity 20,680 bushels were the produce of New Zealand.

The total requirements of malt for the year are—

Malted in Queensland	...	...	...	...	72,730 bushels
Imported, less exported	...	...	...	...	132,889 „
Total	...	...	...	...	205,619 „

So that only 57,393 bushels, or 28 per cent., was the product of Queensland. It may be remarked that the quantity of malt used by brewers in 1899-1900 was only 192,668 bushels, so that a difference exists of 12,951 bushels. This may be taken to represent malt used otherwise than in breweries, waste and fluctuation in stocks in hand.

A table is appended showing the number of bushels malted in Queensland and that imported for each year since 1891, by which it will be seen that the quantity malted in the colony has increased steadily during that time. No doubt the local will gradually displace the imported article, and there is certainly margin for very considerable expansion before the requirements of the colony in this respect are overtaken :—

I d.

	Malted in Queensland. Bushels.		Malt Imported Bushels.
1891-92 (financial)	... 737		
1892-93 ditto	... 2,198	1892	... 116,377
1893-94 ditto	... 1,408	1893	... 121,607
1894-95 ditto	... 4,537	1894	... 127,188
1895-96 ditto	... 12,988	1895	... 153,443
1896-97 ditto	... 14,400	1896	... 147,474
1897-98 ditto	... 34,589	1897	... 156,613
1898 (calendar)	... 32,629	1898	... 129,811
1899 ditto	... 62,271	1899	... 127,469
1900 ditto	... 72,730	1900	... 134,098

I understand the maltsters have already purchased about 70,000 bushels of the 1900 crop, but as some is always found to be unsuitable the quantity expected to be malted from this will probably not exceed 54,000 bushels, the balance being sold for horse and poultry feeding, &c.

The quantity of beer brewed in Queensland was as under—

1898	...	...	...	...	5,028,007 gallons
1899	...	...	...	...	5,422,194 „
1900	...	...	...	...	5,738,190 „

The quantity of malt used in breweries in Queensland was—

1897-8	...	...	...	...	185,310 bushels
1898-9	...	...	...	...	181,092 „
1899-1900	...	...	...	...	192,668 „

The percentage of malt used in proportion to the quantity of beer brewed does not vary much for the two latter years, so that it would appear that beer is now brewed of about a standard quality.

OTHER BARLEY.

Toowoomba district returns the largest area under cultivation, 622 acres, yielding 11,663 bushels, followed by Warwick where 301 acres yielded 2,958 bushels. Allora returned 184 acres, yielding 1,966 bushels, the area in other districts being much smaller. The Dugandan district reports the highest yield per acre, being 28 bushels per acre on 6 acres. The average yield for the whole colony is 15·62 bushels per acre for 1900, the average yield for 1899 being 12·59 bushels per acre.

There were 1,231 acres under this crop, and a total yield of 19,234 bushels is recorded.

MAIZE.

The area of land under maize is steadily increasing, and for the year 1900 the yield has been a fairly good one, although it did not reach the standard of 1898.

The area and yield for three years were as follow:—

Year.								Grain.		Average per Acre.
								Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1898	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	102,835	2,252,481	21.90
1899	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	110,489	1,965,598	17.79
1900	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	127,974	2,456,647	19.20

The increase for 1900 as against 1899 is therefore 17,485 acres and 491,049 bushels, the average being higher by 1.41 bushels per acre.

The total area of land planted with maize in 1900 was as under:—

Ja.

Year.						Green Fodder.	Grain.		Average Produce per Acre.
						Acres.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1899	...	...	...	...	...	4,096	110,489	1,965,598	17.79
1900	...	...	...	...	...	6,737	127,974	2,456,647	19.20
Increase in 1900						1,641	17,485	491,049	1.41
Decrease in 1900						...	...	...	...

The increase in total area under maize for 1900 including cut for fodder, as compared with 1899, is therefore 20,126 acres.

The subjoined table shows the area and yield in each portion of the three divisions of the colony, and it will be seen that the greatest area under this crop, and the greatest yield, is in the eastern portion of the Southern division, whilst the heaviest yield is in the eastern portion of the Northern division, where the large return of 33·65 bushels per acre was obtained from 5,770 acres.

The portion showing the lightest crop is the western portion of the Southern division, where losses were sustained for want of rain at proper times. At Clifton no less than 1,245 acres planted for maize returned no crop, and was fallowed.

J b.

MAIZE GRAIN.

District,	Acres.	Yield.	Average.	Proportion of Area to whole Area of Maize for Grain.
Southern, East	69,578	1,399,026	20·11	54·37
Southern, West	48,044	773,586	16·10	37·54
Total Southern	117,622	2,172,612	18·47	91·91
Central, East	914	16,726	18·30	0·71
Central, West ... ..	...	...	...	...
Total Central	914	16,726	18·30	0·71
Northern, East	5,770	194,147	33·65	4·51
Northern, West	3,668	73,162	19·95	2·87
Total Northern	9,438	267,309	28·32	7·38
TOTAL COLONY	127,974	2,456,647	19·20	100·00

A table is given below showing the area and yield of maize for each district in the colony, contrasting the years 1899 and 1900 with increases and decreases and average yields:—

J c.

Petty Sessions District.	Area Planted for Grain.			Yield of Grain.			Average Yield per Acre.		
	In 1899.	In 1900.	Increase or Decrease	In 1899.	In 1900.	Increase or Decrease	In 1899.	In 1900.	Increase or Decrease
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Warwick	10,146	12,911	2,765	112,136	241,831	129,695	11'05	18'73	7'68
Allora	6,784	10,966	4,182	35,744	109,414	73,670	5'27	9'98	4'71
Gatton	8,028	9,213	1,185	104,150	130,448	26,298	12'97	14'16	1'19
Laidley	8,854	9,022	168	158,450	170,957	12,507	17'90	18'95	1'05
Toowoomba	9,512	8,965	— 547	91,000	103,178	12,178	9'57	11'51	1'94
Dugandan	7,698	7,569	— 129	112,435	133,893	21,458	14'61	17'69	3'08
Killarney	3,369	5,708	2,339	48,280	156,710	108,430	14'33	27'45	13'12
Highfields	5,054	5,616	562	57,513	93,156	35,643	11'38	16'59	5'21
Marburg	5,983	5,119	— 864	106,673	94,908	— 11,765	17'83	18'54	0'71
Harrisville	3,989	3,977	— 12	69,225	73,315	4,090	17'25	18'43	1'18
Rosewood	3,481	3,678	197	86,083	70,139	— 15,944	24'73	19'07	— 5'66
Bundaberg	1,456	3,224	1,768	36,699	64,937	28,238	25'21	20'14	— 5'07
Herberton	2,756	3,131	375	103,675	64,835	— 38,840	37'62	20'71	— 16'91
Cairns	1,382	2,973	1,591	59,053	120,005	60,952	42'73	40'36	— 2'37
Redcliffe	2,935	2,904	— 31	85,250	76,342	— 8,908	29'05	26'29	— 2'76
Crow's Nest, part of*	1,830	2,893	1,323	43,723	81,156	51,135	21'26	26'69	5'43
Crow's Nest, part of†	1,082	1,342		18,176	31,878				
Beaudesert	2,543	2,790	247	64,111	71,689	7,578	25'21	25'69	0'48
Esk	2,233	2,489	256	50,984	52,079	1,095	22'83	20'92	— 1'91
Nerang	1,923	2,159	236	60,699	70,735	10,036	31'56	32'76	1'20
Dalby	2,202	1,954	— 248	32,238	28,285	— 3,953	14'64	14'48	— 0'16
Nanango	1,124	1,798	674	36,098	34,329	— 1,769	32'12	19'09	— 13'03
Logan	1,576	1,751	175	36,890	39,995	3,105	23'41	22'84	— 0'57
Tiaro	1,616	1,589	— 27	45,471	34,566	— 10,905	28'14	21'75	— 6'39
Ipswich	1,629	1,243	— 386	38,740	24,248	— 14,492	23'78	19'51	— 4'27
Gin Gin	989	1,275	286	24,507	24,345	— 162	25'92	19'09	— 6'83
All other Districts ...	10,315	11,715	1,400	247,595	259,274	11,679	23'89	22'13	— 1'76
Total— Colony	110,489	127,974	17,485	1,965,598	2,456,647	491,049	17'79	19'20	1'41

* East of Main Range. † West of Main Range.

From the above it will be seen that the Warwick district had the greatest area under maize, and reaped the greatest number of bushels of grain, the yield being a moderate average of 18'73 bushels per acre. The average yield of the adjoining district of Allora was the lowest in the colony, being only 9'98 bushels per acre.

The highest yield per acre was returned from Cairns, where 2,973 acres yielded 120,005 bushels of maize, being an average of 40'36 bushels per acre, a decrease in the average yield for the previous year of 2'37 bushels per acre. Another exceptionally large yield was returned from Nerang, where 2,159 acres yielded 70,735 bushels of maize, being an average of 32'76 bushels per acre.

The quantity of maize imported for 1900 was as under:—

Year.	Bushels.	Value.
1899	501,179	£89,256
1900	247,449	42,388

So that the larger harvest of the past year had the effect of retaining some £46,863 in the colony as contrasted with the previous year.

Full tables will appear in the Appendix to the General Report on Agriculture, showing area, yield, average, &c., for each district in the colony.

OATS.

A greater area of land is returned under oats for 1900 than has been done for some years past, by far the greater portion, however, being mown for hay or used as green fodder. Whilst the area reaped for grain in 1899 was 714 acres it only reached 385 acres for the past year. The deficiency occurred principally in the Allora district through drought. In Toowoomba, too, there was also a reduction in area of about 60 acres. The area mown for hay is 445 acres more for 1900 than for 1899, and that cut for green fodder 938 acres above the previous year. As will be seen by the subjoined table, the total area under oats for 1900 is 17,117 acres against 16,063 acres for 1899:—

K.

Oats.				1898.	1899.	1900.
				Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Reaped for grain ... ..	...	...	...	271	714	385
Mown for hay ... ..	...	...	...	9,358	10,997	11,442
Cut for green fodder ... ..	...	...	...	3,966	4,352	5,290
Total ... ..	...	...	...	13,595	16,063	17,117

A table is given below showing the area for grain, yield and average per acre for the years 1899 and 1900 respectively.

K a.

Year.								Area for Grain.	Produce.	Average Produce per Acre.
								Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1899	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	714	10,712	15·00
1900	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	385	7,855	20·40
Increase in 1900								...	...	5·40
Decrease in 1900								329	2,857	...

As will be seen, both the area and yield for 1900 are below those of the previous year, but the average yield per acre is higher by no less than 5·40 bushels, being 20·40 bushels against 15·00 bushels. Whilst much better than in the previous year, the yield falls far short of that obtained in New Zealand, where, with the exceptionally good harvest in 1899 and 1900, a yield of 40·99 bushels per acre was obtained.

The average yield of grain for the past three years was as under :—

Year.	Bushels.	Year.	Bushels.	Year.	Bushels.
1898	... 14·93	1899	... 15·00	1900	... 20·40

The quantity and value of oats imported into Queensland during the years 1899 and 1900 are as under :—

Year.	Bushels.	Value.
1899	... 1·6,905	... £22 835
1900	... 194,581	... 28,759

The quantity produced in Queensland would therefore be equal to nearly 4 per cent. of the total requirements. The proportion of local production to total wants in 1899 was 5 per cent., in 1898 equalled 4 per cent., and in 1897 was 28 per cent. of the total requirements.

RICE.

The cultivation of rice does not expand in Queensland, but on the contrary shows a decrease for each of the past two years. Some of the persons who had the largest areas under rice have given up the cultivation of it entirely. Whilst 863 acres were under rice in 1898, only 319 were so returned in 1899; but for last year the area was still further reduced to 271 acres. The crop dropped still more rapidly from 38,133 bushels in 1898 to 9,275 bushels in 1899 and to 6,870 bushels in 1900. The average yield per acre fell from 44·19 bushels in 1898 to 29·08 bushels in 1899 and to 25·35 bushels in 1900.

The subjoined table gives the area under rice, yield, and average per acre for the past five years:—

L.

Year.								Acres.	Bushels.	Average Bushels.
1896	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	600	20,528	34·21
1897	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	445	12,990	29·19
1898	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	863	38,133	44·19
1899	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	319	9,275	29·08
1900	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	271	6,870	25·35

In the subjoined table is shown the area planted, yield, and average yield per acre for each district in which rice is grown. As in the previous year Logan is the only Southern district under this crop, and the area has increased from 18 acres, yielding 289 bushels in 1899 to 26 acres yielding 327 bushels in 1900. The average yield fell from 16·06 bushels per acre in 1899 to 12·58 bushels in 1900. Cairns, which in 1899 returned 207 acres, yielding 6,304 bushels, for the last year had only 144 acres, yielding 3,756 bushels. Cook fell from 61 acres in 1899 to 23 acres in 1900. Douglas, which returned 19 acres for 445 bushels in 1899, had increased to 53 acres for 2,080 bushels in 1900, the average yield there having increased from 23·42 bushels per acre in 1899 to 39·25 bushels in 1900. A new rice district, moreover, has come in, Mourilyan having returned 20 acres, yielding 267 bushels for 1900. Mareeba and Herberton have ceased to cultivate the cereal.

L a.

District.	Position in the Colony.							Area Planted.	Quantity Produced.	Average Yield per Acre.
								Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Logan	Southern Division, East of Main Range							26	327	12·58
Cairns	Northern " East of Coast Range							144	3,756	26·08
Cook	" " " " " " " " " " "							23	415	18·04
Douglas	" " " " " " " " " " "							53	2,080	39·25
Mackay	" " " " " " " " " " "							5	25	5·00
Mourilyan ...	" " " " " " " " " " "							20	267	13·35
Total								271	6,870	25·35

Rice has now been grown in Queensland for a number of years, so that growers should be able to estimate the suitability of the soil and climate for its profitable production. The fact that it is grown in reduced areas and quantity for the past two years is not indicative of a profitable return for the labour expended.

There is no question as to the demand, since the quantity imported last year was 8,607,081 lb., of a value of £45,768, whilst the Queensland return of 6,870 bushels of paddy would equal about 274,800 lb. of clean rice, or about 3 per cent. of the whole requirements of the colony. The only question is of the ability of the growers to produce a rice of an appearance and quality equal to the imported article at a cost to afford them a reasonable profit. Considering the heavy duty which, with freight and charges, is equal to the value of the rice in China and Japan, the local grower would seem to have a large margin in his favour. Probably the rate of wages to be paid in Queensland is the difficulty, since rice is in all cases the product of countries whose labour is both abundant and cheap. The cultivation of rice in Queensland is principally carried on by Chinese.

RYE.

There has been an increase on the area of land under rye for the past year of 140 acres as compared with 1899, but such increase has been entirely in the areas mown for hay and that cut for green feed.

In the area reaped for grain there is a shrinkage of 47 acres in 1900 as compared with 1899. This appears to have been caused by drought, compelling farmers to utilise the crops for green feed and hay in some places, since there was little prospect of getting a grain crop from it.

The total area in Queensland under this crop in 1900 is as under:—

M.					1899. Acres.	1900. Acres.
Reaped for grain	...	...	...	...	198	151
Mown for hay	...	...	...	...	486	594
Cut for green feed	...	...	...	...	747	826
Total area under crop					1,431	1,571

The largest area reaped for grain was in the Toowoomba district, where 63 acres yielded 903 bushels. This was an increase of 19 acres and 405 bushels over 1899. Childers shows 7 acres for 60 bushels, whilst this crop was not sown in 1899. Laidley returns 4 acres yielding 69 bushels against 48 acres for 502 bushels in 1899.

The crop has for the past three years yielded less than 13 bushels per acre on an average over the whole colony, and for 1900 averages 12·77 bushels per acre, an increase of 0·69 bushels over the previous year.

M a.					Yield, Bushels.	Average per Acre. Bushels.
Year.	...	...	...	Acres.	...	...
1896	...	...	...	345	7,449	21·59
1897	...	...	...	470	8,329	17·72
1898	...	...	...	299	3,874	12·96
1899	...	...	...	198	2,391	12·08
1900	...	...	...	151	1,928	12·77

Full reports of acreage and yield for each district in the colony will be found in the Appendix tables of this Report.

POTATOES (ENGLISH).

The area under English potatoes for 1900 was 11,060 acres, yielding 20,014 tons, being an average yield of 1·81 tons per acre against 10,766 acres yielding 22,675 tons, and an average yield of 2·11 tons per acre for 1899, showing an increase in area for 1900 as compared with the previous year of 294 acres, and a decrease in yield of 2,661 tons.

The eastern portion of the Southern division of the colony shows the largest area (8,023 acres) under this crop, and also the largest yield (15,595 tons), about 77 per cent. of the whole quantity produced in the colony. Gatton is the district showing the greatest area under this crop—namely, 2,260 acres yielding 3,859 tons; followed by Redcliffe, 550 acres yielding 1,301 tons; Logan, 536 acres for 989 tons; Laidley, 517 acres for 987 tons.

In the western portion of the Southern division Warwick is the greatest producer with 749 acres yielding 898 tons; Highfields is next with 674 acres yielding 804 tons; Toowoomba returns 332 acres yielding 413 tons; the total area in the western portion of the Southern division being 2,418 acres for 3,167 tons.

The total area and yield of potatoes in the Central division is 217 acres yielding 363 tons, of which the western portion contributed 9 acres yielding 18 tons.

The Northern division of the colony returns in the eastern portion 285 acres for 727 tons, Mackay and Townsville each returning 105 acres, the yield respectively being 257 tons and 301 tons.

In the western portion of that division the total area is 117 acres yielding 162 tons.

Full particulars of the area and yield for each petty session district in the colony are to be found in Appendix tables numbers X. to XIV. at the end of this report.

The weight and value of potatoes imported into Queensland for the past four years is as under:—

Year.					Weight, Tons.	Value, £
1897	...	...	...	...	15,756	61,102
1898	...	...	...	...	10,233	70,006
1899	...	...	...	...	15,128	68,205
1900	...	...	...	...	16,001	64,831

So that the colony produced 56 per cent. of the potatoes consumed here in 1900, as against 60 per cent. in 1899, and 62 per cent. in 1898.

SWEET POTATOES

The area under this crop has fallen to 3,614 acres, yielding 18,200 tons for 1900, being a reduction in area of 305 acres, and in yield of 1,699 tons, as compared with the previous year. The eastern portion of the Southern division returned 2,305 acres, yielding 11,118 tons, whilst the western portion returned only 2 acres, yielding 4 tons.

In the eastern portion of the Central division 93 acres yielded 376 tons, whilst in the western portion 4 acres yielded 9 tons.

In the Northern division the eastern portion returned 1,084 acres, yielding 6,359 tons, whilst the western portion returned 126 acres, yielding 334 tons.

The average yield per acre for the whole colony for 1900 was 5·04 tons per acre, being an almost identical return with the previous year, which was 5·08 tons per acre. There seems scope for indefinite expansion in the cultivation of this tuber, which is one of the easiest grown, prolific, and useful in the root crops suitable for human food, and if fed to animals much benefit results to either pigs or dairy cattle.

SUGAR.

As in my last report, I have to record a considerable decrease in the quantity of sugar produced in Queensland for the past as compared with the previous year, the total output for the whole colony for the last season being 92,554 tons, as against 123,289 tons for 1899, and as against 163,734 tons for 1898.

The reduction in yield for the past season is therefore 30,735 tons, which, if taken at a value of £11 per ton, means a loss to the growers of £338,085 sterling on the year's crop as compared with the returns of the previous year.

The decrease in production is limited to districts south of Mackay, all to the northward of that district, including Mackay itself, showing an increase on the year's output as compared with that of 1899; although Mackay itself—showing an increase on 1899—yet only returns about one-half of the quantity which a good season would yield.

Rockhampton, and all districts to the southward, however, have suffered from drought to such an extent as to very seriously reduce their returns, as will be seen from the subsequent tables.

The area of land cultivated for sugar and the area crushed is given below for the past five years:—

Year.					Cultivated. Acres.		Crushed. Acres.
1896	...	...	...	...	83,093	...	66,640
1897	...	...	...	...	98,641	...	65,432
1898	...	...	...	...	111,012	...	82,391
1899	...	...	...	...	110,657	...	79,435
1900	...	...	...	...	108,535	...	72,651

From this it may be seen that whilst the decrease in the whole area cultivated for sugar is only 2,122 acres, the decrease in the area crushed is 6,784 acres, there being large increases in the areas of plant cane and stand-over or unproductive cane for the past as compared with the previous year.

The average yield of sugar per acre for the past year for the whole colony was 1·28 tons. The following is a summary of the past four years:—

1897, average yield of sugar per acre, 1·50 ton.
1898 " " 1·99 "
1899 " " 1·55 "
1900 " " 1·28 "

The decrease in average yield for the year is therefore 0·27 of a ton, or 5 cwt. 1 qr. 17 lb. per acre less than in 1899, and is confined almost entirely to the Southern and Central districts; the average yield of the Northern districts being greater for the past as compared with the previous year, as will be shown in a table further on, except a fractional decrease in the Cairns-Douglas district.

The weight of cane crushed from the 72,651 acres crushed for sugar was 848,328 tons, or an average of 11·68 tons of cane per acre, as against an average of 14·81 tons per acre for 1899, and 18·72 tons per acre for 1898, and 12·30 tons per acre for 1897.

The number of tons of cane required to make 1 ton of sugar, taking an average of the whole colony, was 9·17 tons for 1900, as against 9·54 tons for 1899, also 9·42 tons for 1898 and 8·22 tons for 1897; the average for the Southern districts for 1900 being 10·77 tons, for the Central 9·14 tons, and for the Northern 8·63 tons.

It has been found that some of the juice from cane grown in the Maryborough, Childers, and Tiaro district has been sent to Bundaberg for treatment, and that it is impossible to separate the production of sugar therefrom. This would have the effect of diminishing the apparent yield of sugar from the quantity of cane grown in the Maryborough and Childers district and inflating the yield in the Bundaberg district, and I have therefore decided to treat as one district, so far as sugar is concerned, the returns from Maryborough, Childers, Tiaro, Bundaberg, and Gin Gin, which have hitherto been treated as two separate districts. This difficulty arose before this year, but I consider the results of treating the districts separately to be incorrect and misleading, hence have decided to treat them as one. The acreage and weight of cane grown in each district is still kept separate and is shown separately.

The subjoined table shows the area for plants, stand-over or unproductive, and total area; also weight of cane and tons of sugar for each district in the colony, and the totals under each heading for each of the three divisions of the colony and for the whole colony.

N.
SUGAR RETURNS, 1900.

District.	Area for Plants.	Area Stand-over or Unproductive.	Area Crushed for Sugar.	Total Area for Sugar.	Weight of Cane.	Sugar.	Molasses.
<i>Southern.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Gallons.</i>
Bundaberg and Gin Gin ...	339	6,794	17,139	24,272	143,712	} 20,429	1,229,307
Childers, Maryborough, and Tiaro	217	6,537	10,002	16,756	76,530		
Logan ...	7	317	652	976	9,446	839	22,400
Marburg and Rosewood ...	15	6	582	603	5,493	461	26,000
Maroochy and Gympie ...	13	194	717	924	9,501	920	35,000
Nerang ...	18	307	539	864	6,272	649	25,000
Total Southern ...	609	14,155	29,631	44,395	250,954	23,298	1,337,707
<i>Central.</i>							
Rockhampton ...	56	374	478	908	4,358	477	10,000
<i>Northern.</i>							
Ayr ...	113	1,828	3,953	5,894	60,665	7,447	40,000
Bowen ...	39	706	1,286	2,031	16,711	1,613	...
Cairns and Douglas ...	169	2,493	8,628	11,290	163,254	18,295	795,075
Ingham and Mourilyan ...	495	5,879	11,549	17,923	171,525	21,230	767,300
Mackay ...	620	8,348	17,126	26,034	180,861	20,194	584,750
Total Northern ...	1,436	19,254	42,542	63,232	593,016	68,779	2,187,125
Total Colony ...	2,101	33,783	72,651	108,535	848,328	92,554	3,534,832

N.B.—The molasses shown above is far short of the quantity produced, but may be taken as the quantity conserved and utilised. Many mills allow this product to run to waste

The area and output for each district are given in the subjoined table—the past and previous years being contrasted.

N a.

Petty Sessions District.	Cultivation.			Production.					
	Area in 1899.	Area in 1900.	Increase or —Decrease in 1900.	1899.		1900.		Increase or —Decrease in 1900.	
				Area Crushed.	Sugar.	Area Crushed.	Sugar.	Area Crushed.	Sugar.
	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>
Ayr ...	7,577	5,894	—1,683	4,845	6,520	3,953	7,447	— 892	927
Bowen ...	1,983	2,031	48	1,094	984	1,286	1,613	192	629
Bundaberg and Gin Gin ...	24,911	24,272	— 639	19,758	} 59,076	17,139	} 20,429	— 2,619	} —38,647
Childers, Maryborough, and Tiaro	17,166	16,756	— 410	13,426		10,002		— 3,424	
Cairns and Douglas ...	10,054	11,290	1,230	6,840	14,699	8,628	18,295	1,788	3,596
Ingham and Mourilyan ...	16,703	17,923	1,220	11,750	20,222	11,549	21,230	— 201	1,008
Logan ...	1,159	976	— 183	908	1,030	652	839	— 256	— 191
Mackay ...	27,317	26,094	—1,223	18,843	17,521	17,126	20,194	— 1,217	2,673
Marburg and Rosewood ...	840	603	— 237	458	297	582	461	124	164
Maroochy and Gympie ...	1,141	924	— 217	654	1,112	717	920	63	192
Nerang ...	866	864	— 2	552	528	539	649	— 13	121
Rockhampton ...	940	908	— 32	807	1,300	478	477	— 329	— 823
Totals, 1899 ...	110,657	...	...	79,435	123,289	...	...	...	...
Totals, 1900 ...	...	108,535	...	...	...	72,651	92,554	...	...
Increase in certain Districts, 1900 ...	...	...	2,504	...	...	...	...	2,167	9,118
Decrease in certain Districts, 1900 ...	...	...	4,626	...	...	...	...	8,951	39,853
Net Increase in 1900 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Net Decrease in 1900 ...	...	...	2,122	...	...	...	...	6,784	30,735

From this it will be seen that the greatest decreases in the area crushed took place in the Childers, Maryborough, and Tiaro districts, there being 3,424 acres less than in the previous year, whilst in the adjoining district of Bundaberg and Gin Gin the decrease was 2,619 acres, the decrease in yield of the two combined being no less than 38,647 tons of sugar. In the Logan district there was a falling off amounting to 256 acres and 191 tons of sugar; whilst the Maroochy and Gympie, with an increased area

of 63 acres, produced 192 tons less than the previous years. The reasons for failure of crop are stated to be drought in all the Southern districts, and also frost in Gin Gin, with drought, frost, and bush fires in Maroochy district.

The Central district crushed cane from 329 acres less than in 1899 and obtained 823 tons less sugar, the losses being caused by drought.

Mackay shows a decrease in area of 1,217 acres, but an increase in the quantity of sugar produced of 2,673 tons compared with the previous year ; the output from the Mackay district in 1898 was 31,780 tons.

The Ayr district crushed 892 acres less than in 1899, but obtained 927 tons more sugar. Bowen (Proserpine) shows a satisfactory increase of 192 acres, the district producing 629 tons sugar in excess of 1899. The greatest increase is in Cairns-Douglas district, being 1,788 acres crushed and 3,596 tons of sugar produced in excess of 1899. Ingham and Mourilyan crushed 201 acres less, but obtained 1,008 tons sugar more than in 1899.

The only sugar district irrigating its crops to any extent is that of Ayr, and the fairly satisfactory yield of 1·88 tons of sugar per acre obtained there is evidently owing to the assistance given to the growth of young cane by copious and timely application of water. The area so treated last year is returned as 4,626 acres as against 4,825 acres the previous year.

The export of manures still continue, and a table is given below showing the quantity of guano and bonedust exported during 1900.

The export of guano has dropped from 6,177 tons in 1899 to 1,932 tons in 1900, but this is not, I understand, from its being utilised within the colony, but due to the more accessible deposits becoming exhausted.

Bonedust to the extent of 9,339 tons was exported in 1900 against 9,915 tons in 1899. However desirable it may be to see the value, £41,915, for manure helping to swell the amount of the exports of the colony, it is greatly to be regretted that the article was not used to promote the fertility of the lands of this colony instead of being sold elsewhere. New South Wales, Victoria, New Zealand, and Japan are each purchasers in the order named, and certainly display wisdom in importing manures into their respective colonies and country, the only regret being that Queensland farmers should not avail themselves of its being for sale and by its use increase the weight and value of their own crops.

N b.
MANURES EXPORTED.

Country Whither.	GUANO.		BONEDUST AND OTHER.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
New South Wales ... ..	...	...	4,794	18,378
Victoria	505	1,135	2,994	12,110
South Australia ... ..	...	...	1	2
Tasmania ... ..	...	...	163	326
New Zealand	1,427	3,831	...	...
Japan ... ..	...	...	1,387	6,133
TOTAL	1,932	4,966	9,339	36,949

In addition to the above, there was 195½ tons of sulphate of ammonia exported, of a value of £1,800, against which may be placed the values of manures imported for the year, £4,314, being as under :—

N c.

RETURN showing the QUANTITY and VALUE of MANURES imported into the COLONY of QUEENSLAND during the Year ended the 31st DECEMBER, 1900.

Manure	...	...	...	Tons cwt.	...	Value.
Guano	...	...	...	547 8	...	£4,174
Sulphate of Soda	...	...	...	6 13	...	105
	...	...	...	5 9	...	35
Total	...	...	...	559 10	...	£4,314

The average yield of sugar per acre for each district for the past eight years is shown in the subjoined table.

N d.
AVERAGE YIELD OF SUGAR PER ACRE.

	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
Logan	1·23	1·25	0·96	1·24	0·76	1·52	1·13	1·29
Childers ... ..	...	...	1·71	2·20	1·27	2·23	1·92	0·75
Maryborough	2·18	2·09	2·00	1·11				
Tiaro ... ..	...	...	...	1·39				
Bundaberg	1·71	1·50	1·48	1·47	1·05	2·01	1·69	1·18
Gin Gin ... ..	...	...	0·10	1·18				
Mackay	1·79	1·79	1·47	1·01	1·35	1·49	0·96	1·18
Ayr	1·84	2·57	1·61	1·36	1·87	2·39	1·35	1·88
Ingham	2·26	2·72	1·86	1·99	2·51	2·20	1·72	1·84
Mourilyan	1·36	1·49	1·61	2·08	2·65			
Cairns	1·25	1·75	1·89	1·58	1·76	2·65	2·15	2·12
Douglas ... ..	...	...	...	...	2·49			

The Cairns-Douglas district takes the highest place with a return of 2·12 tons per acre, Ayr coming next with 1·88 tons, and Ingham-Mourilyan next with 1·84 tons. The Logan returns 1·29 tons of sugar per acre, whilst what is looked upon as the best of the Southern districts—Bundaberg and Childers—together average only 0·75 tons of sugar per acre, a return in very marked contrast to that of 1898, when an average of 2·09 tons of sugar was obtained.

A table is also given below showing the sugar averages for the different districts, in which is shown the tons of cane obtained from each acre of the area crushed, the number of tons of sugar obtained per acre, and the number of tons of cane required to make 1 ton of sugar.

N e.
SUGAR AVERAGES, 1900.

District.	Tons of Cane per Acre Crushed.	Tons Sugar per Acre Crushed.	Tons of Cane per Ton of Sugar.
<i>Southern.</i>			
Bundaberg and Gin Gin	8·38	} 0·75	10·78
Childers, Maryborough, and Tiaro	7·65		
Logan	14·49	1·29	11·26
Marburg and Rosewood	9·44	0·79	11·92
Maroochy and Gympie	13·25	1·28	10·33
Nerang	11·64	1·20	9·67
Total Southern	8·47	0·79	10·77
<i>Central.</i>			
Rockhampton	9·12	1·00	9·14
<i>Northern.</i>			
Ayr	15·35	1·88	8·15
Bowen	12·99	1·25	10·36
Cairns and Douglas	18·92	2·12	8·93
Ingham and Mourilyan	16·58	1·84	8·08
Mackay	10·56	1·18	8·96
Total Northern	13·94	1·62	8·63
Total Colony	11·68	1·28	9·17

The total area of lands under sugar for the year was 108,535 acres, of which 2,101 acres were for plants; 33,783 acres were stand-over or unproductive, and 72,651 acres were crushed for sugar. All sugar-cane grown for green feed or not in connection with the production of sugar are excluded from these returns, but will be found in the return of fodder crops.

By comparison with 1899 there were for the past year 481 acres more of plant cane, 4,181 acres more of stand-over or unproductive, and 6,784 acres less cut and crushed for sugar.

	Tons.	Tons.
The total weight of sugar produced in Queensland during the past season amounted to ... ..	...	92,554
The quantity exported from 1st June, 1900, to 31st March, 1901 was	54,586	
Add to this the estimated requirements of Queensland	27,000	81,586
The remainder of		10,968

represents the quantity of the year's crop still held in this State. This amount is therefore available for export, and, as I believe the allowance of 27,000 tons amply covers the local State's requirements, the balance is probably held for market considerations.

A table is given below, showing the net importation of cane and beet sugar and glucose into each of the colonies of Australia and New Zealand for the years 1898 and 1899, and it will be seen that whilst the importations of sugar into New South Wales for 1899 were 2,837 tons below the figures of 1898; those of South Australia show for 1899 only about one-half the ordinary requirements of the colony for the year. On reference I find that the discrepancy is explained by the quantities held in bond. A similar drop in importations is also noticeable in those of New Zealand. The quantity of sugar made in New South Wales for 1900 was 19,938 tons.

N f.

RETURN showing the NET IMPORTS of SUGAR for each of the other AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES for the Years 1898 and 1899.

Colony.	1898.				1899.			
	Cane Sugar.	Beet Sugar.	Glucose.	Total.	Cane Sugar.	Beet Sugar.	Glucose.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
New South Wales	42,222	1,801	1,179	45,202	40,919	307	1,139	42,365
Victoria	46,188	6	1,066	47,260	45,926	22	1,119	47,437
South Australia	16,129	51	268	16,448	6,914	50	194	7,158
Western Australia	7,012	967	26	8,005	8,145	211	43	8,399
Tasmania	7,048	46	70	7,164	7,703	...	62	7,765
New Zealand	36,354	445	273	37,072	30,343	1	142	30,486
Totals	154,953	3,316	2,882	161,151	139,950	591	3,069	143,610

Omitting New Zealand, which is principally supplied from Fiji, the net importations of cane sugar of the five Federated States comprised in the table, amounted last year to 109,607 tons, the Queensland export of that article for the season being, as mentioned before, 54,586 tons, or just one-half of their requirements.

The quantities of beet sugar returned as imported by the several colonies seems absurdly small, and calls for some doubts as to their accuracy. The cultivation of beets for sugar does not seem to have revived in the Southern States, and no notice of the manufacture of beet sugar in Victoria where the experiment was tried two or three years ago has come before me of late.

The number of manufactories in connection with this industry in Queensland are:—

Refineries ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sugar-making ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
Crushing only ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
<hr/>								
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67

The number of sugar-mills to which advances have been made under the Sugar Works Guarantee Act is 12, including 1 tramway company, the total amount of advances being £497,245 3s. 5d., and the total indebtedness up to the 31st December, 1900, being £542,742 4s. 7d. including interest. Since the end of 1900 £6,426 13s. 6d. has been paid, reducing the amount at present owing to £536,355 9s. 1d.

It may be interesting to note the average quantity of sugar used per capita of population in each of the States now federated, and in New Zealand, and in order to allow for fluctuations such as have already been mentioned with regard to South Australia, the net imports of sugar into each colony has been extracted and averaged for five years, the result of which is given below.

In the cases of New South Wales and Queensland, which are both sugar producing countries, the quantity produced in each year has been added to the net importation, as also the small quantity of beet sugar made in Victoria, the exportation in each case being of course duly taken into account.

The following table gives the consumption of sugar for each colony ascertained as above, and also the consumption per capita for each.

Ng.

RETURN showing the AVERAGE ANNUAL CONSUMPTION OF SUGAR, and also the AVERAGE ANNUAL CONSUMPTION per CAPITA of the MEAN POPULATION, for the QUINQUENNIAL PERIOD 1895-1899.

—	Queensland.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Total Federating Colonies.	New Zealand.	Total Australasia
Average Annual Consumption—Tons	27,024	61,590	51,425	15,189	6,721	6,784	168,733	32,898	201,631
Average Annual Consumption per Capita—Lb.	128·11	106·10	98·22	95·84	106·49	89·81	104·45	102·15	104·06

It would appear also from the foregoing figures that if we except New Zealand, the consumption of sugar for Federated Australia amounts to 168,733 tons per annum, and for the whole of Australasia to 201,631 tons.

In 1898 Queensland produced 163,734 tons of sugar, whilst New South Wales produced 29,110 tons, so that these two States are quite capable of meeting the needs of the Commonwealth in sugar in all good seasons without any purchases from countries outside their boundaries.

ARROWROOT.

As was found to be the case last year, there is again a falling off in both area and yield of arrowroot. The area under this crop for 1900 was returned as 401 acres yielding 4,419 tons of tubers, as compared with 431 acres yielding 4,669 tons in 1899. Of the total area under this crop 398 acres were in the eastern portion of the Southern division, there being 1 acre returned in the Mackay district and 2 acres in Mourilyan. Nerang returns 250 acres yielding 2,783 tons, and Logan 123 acres yielding 1,475 tons, the areas in other places being insignificant.

Cultivation has decreased at Nerang for 1900 by 49 acres, and the yield by 656 tons as compared with 1899, whilst it has increased at the Logan by 25 acres, 525 tons for 1900, as compared with 1899.

The following table shows the quantity and value of arrowroot, maizena, and cornflour imported into Queensland during the last four years:—

Year.	ARROWROOT.		MAIZENA AND CORNFLOUR.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Lb.	£	Lb.	£
1897 ...	11,332	159	363,340	4,037
1898 ...	12,952	163	300,742	3,260
1899 ...	13,262	171	437,946	4,306
1900 ...	13,785	200	327,318	3,331

There has therefore been an increase in the quantity and value of arrowroot imported to a trifling extent, and a considerable decrease in that of maizena and cornflour.

The quantity and value of arrowroot exported during each of the past four years was as under:—

Year.	ARROWROOT.		MAIZENA AND CORNFLOUR.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Lb.	£	Lb.	£
1897	282,334	3,404	1,393	39
1898	505,512	5,689	4,776	47
1899	497,115	4,228	1,676	24
1900	463,617	3,534	18,566	189

Showing a decrease on the value of arrowroot exported of £694, and an increase in that of maizena, &c., of £165, nearly all of which went to New Zealand.

Full tables, showing the area under cultivation and the yield for each petty session district in the colony, appear in the Appendix, Tables Nos. X. to XIV., at the end.

TOBACCO.

There was a considerable falling off in both area and produce of this crop during 1900. This was due to drought, and was anticipated and commented upon in the last report. In 1899, 6,551 cwt. dried leaf were obtained from 745 acres, an average yield of 8·8 cwt. per acre. Last year the area was only 665 acres, the produce 4,032 cwt., and the average return obtained was 6·1 cwt., but the latter year both in area and results was better than 1898, when only 3,276 cwt. were picked from 617 acres, an average of 5·3 cwt. per acre.

The following table gives details of the 1900 crop:—

O.

District.										Area.	Produce (Dried Leaf).
										Acres.	Cwt.
Cairns										8	15
Cardwell										1	10
Inglewood										75	661
Texas										581	3,346
Total										665	4,032

Although the area of cultivation extends from Cairns in the far north to the very southernmost limits of the colony, yet practically all the tobacco is grown in the two contiguous districts of Texas and Inglewood. The return of 10 cwt. yielded by 1 acre at Cardwell might be taken as indicating the suitability of the climate for tobacco cultivation, but, on the other hand, only 15 cwt. were obtained from 8 acres at Cairns. At Texas, the chief centre of production, the area had declined in 1900 by 90 acres, from 671 in 1899 to 581 in the following year. At Inglewood there was an increase of 6 acres on the 69 planted in 1899, the increased area slightly exceeding relatively the increased production. In Texas, the production declined 43 per cent.—namely, from 5,915 cwt. of dried leaf to 3,346 cwt.

A comparison of the quantities of tobacco imported and entered for home consumption during 1899 and 1900, show for the latter year a considerable decrease of the former and a slight increase of the latter. The following shows the amount of tobacco imported and entered for consumption for each of the two years named:—

Oa.

Year.			Tobacco, &c.					Imported.	Entered for Home Consumption.	
								Lb.	Lb.	
1899	{	Manufactured	...	...	...	...	912,852	703,577
				Unmanufactured	...	...	...	...	44,054	45,761
				Cigars	...	...	...	...	85,669	69,780
				Cigarettes	...	...	...	...	74,801	68,434
				Snuff	...	...	...	...	484	343
Total				...	...	...	...	1,117,860	887,895	
1900	{	Manufactured	...	...	...	...	690,684	697,676
				Unmanufactured	...	...	...	...	62,020	64,298
				Cigars	...	...	...	...	78,704	68,913
				Cigarettes	...	...	...	...	65,321	67,255
				Snuff	...	...	...	...	168	509
Total				...	...	...	...	896,897	898,651	

Of the imports as between 1899 and 1900, the principal decline was in manufactured tobacco, which amounted to 222,168 lb. Cigars and cigarettes also showed decreases, but, on the other hand, there was more unmanufactured tobacco imported last year than in 1899, no doubt due to the reduced quantity grown.

The value of leaf tobacco imported for manufacture for the past three years was:—1898, £1,681; 1899, £1,985; and 1900, £2,565; figures which show the need for our growers to bestir themselves, even without considering the question of competing with the manufactured article.

The following table shows the quantity and value of tobacco manufactured in Queensland during each of the last three years:—

O b.

	1898.		1899.		1900.	
	Lb.	Value. £	Lb.	Value. £	Lb.	Value. £
Tobacco	492,884	44,737	607,333	53,558	612,350	58,325
Cigars	938	584	602	329	1,463	669
Cigarettes	15,175	5,311	22,756	6,827	28,857	8,624
Snuff	328	44	233	30	176	23
	509,325	50,676	630,924	60,744	702,846	67,641

An advance each year is to be noted. The increases over the output of the previous year being in 1899, 121,599 lb., £10,068; in 1900, 71,922 lb., £6,897. The relative increase in cigars manufactured during 1900 is very marked, although the total output is still inconsiderable. The following statement gives the amount of excise duty collected on tobacco in all its forms during the past two years:—

O c.

	1899. £	1900. £
Tobacco	29,220	30,770
Cigars	187	136
Cigarettes	2,207	2,885
Snuff	14	9
	31,628	33,800

The crop for 1901 is expected to result more satisfactorily than that for 1900.

COFFEE.

There has been a slight increase in the area of land under coffee for the past as compared with the previous year, the total area of bearing trees for 1900 being 283 acres against 223 acres for 1899. In the land under coffee shrubs which are not yet bearing, the area for 1900 is 254 acres against 272 acres for 1899; so that for 1900 there is an increase in area of bearing trees of 60 acres, and in non-bearing trees a decrease of 18 acres, leaving a net increase of 42 acres.

The yield obtained, however, shows a decrease, being 102,134 lb. for 1900, as against 104,981 lb. for 1899, being a decrease of yield of 2,847 lb.

The district showing the greatest area under coffee is that of Cairns, where there were 103 acres of trees in bearing and 119 acres of non-bearing trees, as against 97 acres and 102 acres respectively for 1899. Mackay, which in 1899 returned 123 acres of non-productive trees, this year returns 18 acres of trees in bearing and 49 acres of non-bearing trees. I understand some 70 acres of trees in the district were entirely destroyed by fire during the past year—hence the shortage. Mourilyan shows for 1900 a substantial increase of 35 acres of bearing trees and a decrease of 7 acres in those not yet productive, the areas being 49 productive and 15 non-productive, against 14 acres bearing and 22 acres non-bearing for 1900. Another promising district is that of Mareeba, which in 1900 returned 34 acres of bearing and 18 acres of non-bearing trees, against 34 acres and 11 acres respectively in 1899. The rich lands of Cairns, the Russell and Mulgrave Rivers, and Kuranda, seem admirably adapted to the production of coffee, and so far the growers do not appear to have had any serious difficulty in picking, whilst the heat, absence of frost, and copious rainfall of those localities ensures a regular growth.

In the Southern division there appears an area of 47 acres at Maroochy, 23 acres of which are bearing trees, showing an increase of 18 acres as compared with 1899.

A return is given below showing the acreage, yield, and average yield per acre of each district.

P.

District.	Non-productive.	Productive.	Yield.	Average Yield per Acre of Productive Area.
	Acres.	Acres.	Lb.	Lb.
Cairns	119	103	56,914	553
Cook ... ..	...	26	5,244	202
Douglas	8	18	4,632	257
Gympie... ..	...	1	336	336
Herberton	5	...	...	...
Mackay	49	18	3,290	183
Mareeba	18	34	12,996	382
Maroochy	24	23	5,748	250
Maryborough ... ..	...	6	1,150	192
Mourilyan	15	49	9,520	194
Rockhampton	16	3	1,800	600
St. Lawrence ... ..	...	2	504	252
Total 1900	254	283	102,134	361
Total 1899	272	223	104,981	470
Increase 1900 ... ..	...	60	...	...
Decrease 1900	18	...	2,847	109

The quantity of coffee imported into Queensland during 1900 was only about three-fourths of the quantity imported during 1899, and as the production also was less, it follows that either the quantity consumed was less in 1900 than in the preceding year, or that stocks had been reduced below those held in previous years.

The following table gives the quantity of raw and roasted coffee imported into and exported from Queensland for the past four years, also net imports, and it will be seen that the net quantity imported is less in 1900 than in any of the three preceding years. As the crop grown in the colony is smaller, it is probable that less coffee is being consumed by the Queensland people than formerly.

It may be noticed that several districts return a much lower average yield per acre than was the case in the previous year. For instance, Mouriliyan returns in 1899 a yield of 457 lb. per acre, but in 1900 returns only 194 lb., the reason probably being that the bulk of the trees are bearing for the first time, and the yield is therefore small. Maroochy reports a bad yield, the trees being damaged by bush fires. This district showed a yield of 324 lb. per acre in 1899, and only 250 lb. per acre in 1900. Maryborough also reports a short yield caused by drought.

P a.

Coffee.							IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.		NET IMPORTS.	
							Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
							Lb.	£	Lb.	£	Lb.	£
1897	Raw ...	...	...	...	...	...	104,901	4,606	658	42	104,243	4,564
	Roasted	...	...	...	...	...	52,955	2,617	4,365	205	48,590	2,412
	Total	...	...	...	...	...	157,856	7,223	5,023	247	152,833	6,976
1898	Raw ...	...	...	...	...	...	84,543	3,076	7,692	221	76,851	2,855
	Roasted	...	...	...	...	...	95,138	4,226	1,103	61	94,035	4,165
	Total	...	...	...	...	...	179,681	7,302	8,795	282	170,886	7,020
1899	Raw ...	...	...	...	...	...	128,480	4,055	7,921	252	120,559	3,803
	Roasted	...	...	...	...	...	89,122	4,204	804	38	88,318	4,166
	Total	...	...	...	...	...	217,602	8,259	8,725	290	208,877	7,969
1900	Raw ...	...	...	...	...	...	56,766	1,804	5,231	160	51,535	1,644
	Roasted	...	...	...	...	...	96,881	4,519	1,907	100	94,974	4,419
	Total	...	...	...	...	...	153,647	6,323	7,138	260	146,509	6,063

Taking the average of importations for the four years, and adding the year's yields of coffee as representing the consumption of coffee in Queensland for the year, we find that the consumption averages a little over 8 oz. (0.51 lb.) *per capita* per annum.

On the same figures the production of coffee in Queensland is equal to 41 per cent. of its requirements.

Whilst the consumption of coffee is only 0.51 lb. *per capita*, and apparently decreasing, the consumption of tea, taking an average of five years, is 6.92 lb. *per capita* per annum.

PUMPKINS.

Full information respecting the area and yield of pumpkins for each petty sessions district for each division of the colony is given in Appendix, Tables Nos. X. to XIV., at the end of the report. For 1900 there has been an increase both in area and yield of this crop as compared with the previous year, the figures being—area 14,232 acres yielding 43,740 tons, against 10,167 acres yielding 38,040 tons in 1899. The eastern portion of the Southern division returns the greatest area and yield, the Central and Northern divisions returning but little. Pumpkins are usually grown in conjunction with some other crop, and when this is found to be the case the area of land is divided between the two crops produced.

VINES, GRAPES, AND WINE.

The year 1900 has been slightly better for the owners of vineyards than was 1899, and the returns show that whilst the bearing vines show a loss of 8 acres the non-bearing have increased by 28 acres, the increase in area for the whole year being 16 acres more than were returned in 1899. The yield, too, is slightly better, being 3,634,949 lb. for 1900 against 3,230,627 lb. for 1899, whilst the average yield increased from 1,850 lb. of grapes per acre in 1899 to 2,096 lb. in 1900.

In 1898, which was not a good year, the yield averaged 2,383 lb. per acre.

The following table gives the areas and yields for the years 1899 and 1900:—

Q.

Year.						VINEYARD			Grapes Gathered.	Average Yield.
						Acres Bearing.	Acres not Bearing.	Total.		
1899	...	...	...	...	...	1,746	257	2,003	Lb. 3,230,627	Lb. 1,850
1900	...	...	...	...	...	1,734	285	2,019	Lb. 3,634,949	Lb. 2,096

The Roma district has the greatest area under grape vines in the colony, there being about 29 per cent. of the whole contained in that district. But this district has in common with the whole Western portion of the colony suffered very severely from drought, and although the return of grapes is slightly better than in 1899, it is not more than one-fourth of an ordinary crop.

During the year there was an increase in area amounting to 20 acres in the Roma district, the total area under vines being returned for 1900 at 585 acres, yielding 263,416 lb. of grapes, against 565 acres yielding 169,580 lb. in 1899.

The district next in importance is Brisbane, where 161 acres are under vines, being an increase of 31 acres over the area returned in 1899, and of which 25 acres are not yet bearing. The grapes gathered in 1900 were 404,748 lb., a substantial increase on the yield of the previous year. Toowoomba, with 139 acres, returns 517,765 lb. of grapes, also an increase on the yield of 1899; South Brisbane, with 128 acres, returns 341,271 lb. of grapes; Rockhampton, with 90 acres, returns 216,526 grapes, being a decrease in area and yield as compared with 1899. Warwick, with 82 acres, returns 142,130 lb. of grapes, showing a decreased return from a larger area of land.

A table is given below showing the area and yield, for the years 1899 and 1900, of each district returning grape vines in an appreciable area.

Q a.

Petty Sessions District.	AREA UNDER VINES.								
	1899.			1900.			Increase + or Decrease - in Latter Year.	1899.	1900.
	Bearing.	Not yet Bearing.	Total Area.	Bearing.	Not yet Bearing.	Total Area.		Grapes Gathered.	Grapes Gathered.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.		Lb.	Lb.
Roma	518	47	565	492	93	585	+ 20	169,580	263,416
Brisbane	124	6	130	136	25	161	+ 31	278,844	404,748
Toowoomba	117	9	126	136	3	139	+ 13	395,250	517,765
South Brisbane	115	8	123	117	11	128	+ 5	323,589	341,271
Rockhampton	82	26	108	70	20	90	- 18	247,966	216,526
Warwick	70	4	74	79	3	82	+ 8	208,596	142,130
Maryborough	60	10	70	53	6	59	- 11	97,954	96,043
Gatton	53	16	69	72	7	79	+ 10	104,558	217,500
Logan	49	1	50	42	7	49	- 1	139,086	110,746
Marburg	43	1	44	39	...	39	- 5	109,330	144,430
Gympie... ..	31	9	40	32	6	38	- 2	42,749	58,470
Highfields	31	2	33	30	1	31	- 2	129,040	96,484
Allora	30	2	32	24	...	24	- 8	33,996	17,154
Rosewood	28	13	41	36	6	42	+ 1	182,890	159,420
Laidley	24	...	24	24	3	27	+ 3	82,480	113,505

A table is given below showing the number of pounds per acre (average yield) for each of the five principal districts for the past five years, and it will be seen that whilst Toowoomba, Brisbane, and South Brisbane give good average returns, the yield at Roma and Warwick are much below the yield of an ordinary season.

Q b.

	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	Average per Acre.	Average per Acre.	Average per Acre.	Average per Acre.	Average per Acre.
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Toowoomba	5,542	5,197	3,829	3,378	3,807
Warwick	3,660	2,853	2,611	2,980	1,799
Brisbane	2,159	2,498	2,122	2,249	2,976
Roma... ..	3,306	2,160	2,353	327	535
South Brisbane	1,601	2,102	2,511	2,814	2,917

So far Queensland vineyards appear to be perfectly healthy, and with a maintenance of the strict regulations made against the introduction of vine cuttings and grapes from infected places, growers here may long continue to escape a visitation from phylloxera which has wrought such havoc elsewhere.

The flying-fox has taken to grapes in some districts and done much damage in the vineyards. It is a matter of regret that this pest is so difficult to deal with, as it must cost fruitgrowers a very large sum of money each year in the value of the fruit destroyed by it.

WINE-MAKING.

The number of persons making wine in Queensland has increased during 1900, as compared with the previous year, by forty-four persons, the actual numbers being 556 persons for 1900 and 512 for 1899.

The quantity of wine made is greater in 1900, being 132,489 gallons, against 131,045 gallons in 1899.

The quantity of brandy distilled is nearly double for 1900, being 1,055 gallons, against 615 gallons for 1899.

A table is given below showing the number of makers, quantity of wine made, and brandy distilled for each year since 1895, by which it will be seen that the quantity of wine made has for the past three years fallen very considerably below what it was in 1895. It is probably owing to greater attention being now paid to the quality of the wine produced, and also to the fact that drought in the Western districts has reduced the return of grapes there, and has therefore given less to be made into wine.

Q c.

Years.							Number of Makers.	Quantity of Wine Made.	Quantity of Brandy Distilled.
								Gallons.	Gallons.
1895	...	...	...	...	...	...	661	238,208	1,259
1896	...	...	...	...	...	...	704	170,733	767
1897	...	...	...	...	...	...	722	207,745	994
1898	...	...	...	...	...	...	613	134,334	1,115
1899	...	...	...	...	...	...	512	131,045	615
1900	...	...	...	...	...	...	556	132,489	1,055

A table is given below showing the number of makers, quantity of wine made, and brandy distilled in each of the more important wine-producing districts of Queensland.

Q d.

1900.

Petty Sessions District.							Number of Makers.	Quantity of Wine Made.	Quantity of Brandy Distilled.
								Gallons.	Gallons.
Roma	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5,950	300
Toowoomba	...	...	...	...	...	...	127	23,043	...
Brisbane	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	7,114	100
South Brisbane	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	17,150	260
Rosewood	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	11,960	265
Highfields	...	...	...	...	...	...	33	8,173	...
Rockhampton	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4,700	60
Gatton	...	...	...	...	...	...	31	5,644	...
Warwick	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	2,535	40
All other Districts	...	...	...	...	...	...	288	46,220	30
							556	132,489	1,055

By comparison with the corresponding figures of 1899 it is found that a large shrinkage has taken place in the Roma district, the output having fallen to 5,950 gallons, owing entirely to drought, whilst Warwick returns only 2,535 gallons.

With favourable seasons no doubt a large recovery in output will take place, and well-equipped growers will continue to manufacture wine.

Up to the present time Queensland growers have had a protection amounting to 6s. per gallon on their wine, but have not been able to extend their business to the exclusion of wines made in other parts of Australia, the opportunities of sale at a reduced price militated against its being kept until thoroughly matured, whilst the limited size of vineyards did not allow of operations on any very large scale.

When the present duty on wines has ceased, and wines from other parts of Australia come here with no other handicap than the extra freight and charges, the wine industry of Queensland will be shorn of the advantages it has hitherto held, and will have to depend on its quality and price as compared with wines from New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia to effect sales. It is certain that the free introduction of first-class light wines will lead to a largely increased consumption, that wine will be consumed in much greater quantities than has hitherto been the case, and if the taste for light wines displaces that for beer and spirits, Queensland vignerons will have an opportunity of benefiting thereby equally with those of other places.

The quantity and value of wine imported into Queensland for the past year, being the produce of the Australian colonies, are as follow :—

						Gallons.	£
New South Wales	...	...	...	...	...	6,006	2,821
Victoria	...	...	...	...	...	1,686	862
South Australia	...	...	...	...	...	6,778	3,204
Total	...	...	...	...	...	14,470	£6,887

BANANAS.

The area under bananas was greater in the past than in the previous year by 413 acres, but the yield has been considerably less. The area under this crop in 1900 was 6,215 acres as against 5,802 acres in 1899, the district showing the principal increase being Cairns, with 652 acres greater area in 1900 than in the previous year. Singularly this district showed a decrease for 1899 as compared with 1898, so that some additional land must have been put under this crop during 1900, probably new land, just cleared, which always yields the best returns under bananas. The quantity of fruit obtained is much smaller than in 1899, but being returned in bunches, and the yield being previously given in dozens, the two are not accurately comparable.

There was from growers' reports considerable failure of crops in the Cairns district, which, with the stringent regulations and inspections both before shipment in this colony and at the port of discharge, have acted adversely on growers' interests, and tend to restrict the output shipped. From these reports there will probably be further diminution in this crop next year.

The subjoined table shows the area and yield of the different districts for the past two years.

R.

District.	Area.		Production.		Increase + ecrease —	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.	Area.	tity.
	Acres.	Acres.	Dozen.	Bunches.	Acres.	nches.*
Brisbane 	188	174	303,666	254,869	— 14	...
Cairns 	1,860	2,512	26,979,616	752,032	+ 652	...
Cleveland 	263	260	485,996	110,246	— 3	...
Cook 	55	36	26,900	29,195	— 19	...
Logan 	309	186	558,673	57,533	— 123	...
Maroochy 	560	599	774,445	473,875	+ 39	...
Maryborough 	139	127	117,360	33,374	— 12	...
Mourilyan 	2,038	1,989	6,664,952	524,115	— 49	...
Redcliffe 	61	44	12,770	8,200	— 17	...
Somerset 	109	92	106,780	8,566	— 17	...
All other Districts 	220	196	270,577	69,103	— 24	...
	5,802	6,215	36,301,735	2,321,108	+ 413	...

* The produce was given in dozens in 1899, and in bunches in 1900.

PINEAPPLES.

The area of ground under pineapples was less for 1900 than for 1899, the areas being 939 acres, yielding 424,835 dozen in 1900 against 994 acres, yielding 401,692 dozen in 1899, so that whilst there was a reduction of 55 acres there was an increase in the yield of 23,143 dozen.

The principal increase in yield occurs in Brisbane, where 52,562 dozen more are returned for 1900 than were returned in 1899, although the area decreased by 18 acres. This increase is more than counterbalanced by a decrease in Cairns of 53,543 dozen, where there was also a decrease in area of 17 acres. Cleveland returns an increase in area of 30 acres, but a decrease in yield of 6,078 dozen of fruit. Maroochy returns an increase of 1 acre, but an increase in yield of 17,970 dozen of fruit.

In Charters Towers, where the drought was very severely felt, the whole area of 12 acres disappears. Indeed, in this district many of the farmers gave up agricultural pursuits from this cause. The cultivation there is entirely in the hands of the Chinese.

Cairns, which in 1898 cultivated 284 acres, returned only 90 acres for 1900, most of the plants being ploughed out and other crops substituted.

A table is appended showing the area and yield for 1900 as compared with 1899 for each important district, and giving the increase and decrease in area and yield.

S.

District.	1899.		1900.		Increase + or — Decrease.	
	Acres.	Dozen.	Acres.	Dozen.	Acres.	Dozen.
Brisbane 	464	210,196	446	262,758	— 18	+ 52,562
Cairns 	107	82,374	90	28,831	— 17	— 53,543
Charters Towers 	12	1,440	...	...	— 12	— 1,440
Cleveland 	64	27,547	94	21,469	+ 30	— 6,078
Cook 	17	3,946	11	2,464	— 6	— 1,482
Logan 	69	15,572	65	21,345	— 4	+ 5,773
Maryborough 	36	6,914	35	11,230	— 1	+ 4,316
Maroochy 	41	6,776	42	24,746	+ 1	+ 17,970
Mourilyan 	35	4,550	18	12,526	— 17	+ 7,976
Redcliffe 	11	2,904	14	5,802	+ 3	+ 2,898
Rockhampton 	26	4,369	24	3,506	— 2	— 863
South Brisbane 	8	2,040	14	9,033	+ 6	+ 6,993

In addition to yielding in large quantities a product that under careful cultivation is one of the most delicious of all fruits, it would appear, from an article recently published in *The Chamber of Commerce Journal*, that from the leaf of this plant, either in its wild or its cultivated state, a fibre may be obtained surpassing flax for strength, fineness, and glossy appearance. Their relative strengths were found to be as 26 is to 35; it is also found to possess special qualities for rope-making, it being a good damp resistant, and from the fineness of its fibre it is considered by some experts that it would offer special advantages for mixing with cotton or wool. As the plant grows so freely in Southern Queensland it is possible that a little investigation might lead to its further utilization in this direction.

ORANGES.

A satisfactory increase is returned under this heading for the past as compared with the previous year, both in area and yield. For 1900 there were returned 2,882 acres, yielding 2,041,068 dozen, against 2,324 acres, yielding 1,420,839 dozen in 1899, being an increase of 558 acres and 620,229 dozen in yield.

The area of productive trees in 1900 was 2,045 acres, and of nonproductive, 837 acres.

The district returning the greatest area was Maroochy, with 562 acres, of which 271 acres, or nearly one-half, were unproductive. This district also produced the largest crop, returning 234,763 dozen. Maryborough returned 261 acres under orange trees, being 10 acres less than in 1899. One hundred acres of this total area were returned as being unproductive, but the 161 acres shown as productive produced 212,522 dozen. Gatton for 1900 returned 181 acres, of which 54 acres were nonproductive. Bowen returned 174 acres for 1900, Nerang 154 acres, and Rockhampton 137 acres.

The greatest advance was shown in Maroochy, where there was the greatest increase in area for the year as well as showing the largest area under oranges. In addition to this there have been substantial advances made at Nerang of 59 acres, Gatton of 58 acres, Cleveland 47 acres, and others.

As the orange ripens in Queensland some time earlier than in New South Wales, there must be a good market in Sydney and Melbourne for the fruit grown in this colony, and probably for the New South Wales oranges in Queensland at a later date when the local crops are disposed of.

A good deal of this business has already been done and more will follow as markets are opened up.

There should be a considerable demand for the Seville orange for Marmalade making, both in this and the neighbouring colonies.

It is impossible to give the number of cases of oranges exported during the year, since all green fruit is grouped together, and oranges cannot be distinguished in the returns.

A table is given below showing the area of land under oranges in each district for the past two years, with yield, increase and decrease, and area of production, as distinguished from unproductive trees.

T.

Petty Sessions District.	Area.		Production.		Increase + or Decrease --		Productive 1900.	Unproductive 1900.
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.	Area.	Production.	Area.	Area.
	Acres.	Acres.	Dozen.	Dozen.	Acres.	Dozen.	Acres.	Acres.
Bowen	141	174	88,210	86,552	+ 33	- 1,658	140	34
Brisbane	64	65	50,584	91,930	+ 1	+ 41,346	59	6
Bundaberg	39	25	12,910	13,870	- 14	+ 960	24	1
Caboollture	40	55	4,250	19,170	+ 15	+ 14,920	30	25
Cairns	82	52	91,730	46,200	- 30	- 45,530	51	1
Cardwell	61	72	41,246	58,860	+ 11	+ 17,614	60	12
Charters Towers	37	28	30,590	37,650	- 9	+ 7,060	26	2
Childers	15	40	4,331	21,800	+ 25	+ 17,469	28	12
Cleveland	79	126	70,663	72,606	+ 47	+ 1,943	84	42
Cook	62	53	34,502	36,384	- 9	+ 1,882	53	...
Douglas	76	111	61,614	80,732	+ 35	+ 19,118	103	8
Gatton	123	181	32,646	106,276	+ 58	+ 73,630	127	54
Gympie	57	82	26,840	33,970	+ 25	+ 7,130	36	46
Herberton	21	26	31,526	17,536	+ 5	- 13,990	20	6
Hughenden	32	31	15,210	6,440	- 1	- 8,770	31	...
Logan	60	74	50,580	41,373	+ 14	- 9,207	60	14
Maroochy	377	562	129,801	234,763	+ 185	+ 104,962	291	271
Maryborough	271	261	197,640	212,522	- 10	+ 14,882	161	100
Mourilyan	12	32	2,050	31,240	+ 20	+ 29,190	28	4
Nerang	95	154	72,877	167,758	+ 59	+ 94,881	118	36
Redcliffe	54	62	39,980	27,691	+ 8	- 12,289	49	13
Rockhampton	112	137	63,272	54,415	+ 25	- 8,857	92	45
South Brisbane	18	40	7,500	27,720	+ 22	+ 20,220	22	18
Tiaro	40	68	33,795	32,790	+ 28	- 1,005	50	18
Toowoomba	44	33	41,374	196,460	- 11	+ 155,086	29	4
All other Districts	312	338	185,118	284,360	+ 26	+ 99,242	273	65
TOTAL	2,324	2,882	1,420,839	2,041,068	+ 558	+ 620,229	2,045	837

MANGOES.

A good steady increase was shown in the area under this fruit for the past as compared with the previous year, the area for 1899 being 245 acres, returning 191,074 dozen, which increased in 1900 to 411 acres, yielding 277,444 dozen. Of this area 349 acres were productive, whilst 62 acres were nonproductive, not having yet come into bearing.

The principal increases had taken place at—Bowen, 47 acres; Mourilyan, 32 acres; Rockhampton, 28 acres; most of the other districts showing increases of from 1 to 7 acres.

Rockhampton had the largest area (61 acres) under this crop; Bowen next with 48 acres; Mourilyan with 47 acres.

A decrease of 21 acres is shown in the Cairns district, some of the Chinese growers having ceased to cultivate the tree.

All the northern portion of the colony on the seaboard seems to be well adapted to the growth of this fruit, which can be produced there in any required quantity, but the drawback seems to be the difficulty of finding a suitable market. It is quite true that much of the fruit grown and sent to market is from trees bearing inferior mangoes, and no one would readily acquire a taste for this fruit if only the fibrous varieties with strong unpleasant flavour were presented for their use. But there are mangoes of most delicious flavour, and free from fibre, which can be grown as easily as the worthless kinds; and if these are properly gathered and packed they should be saleable in any market.

What is wanted to provide a proper outlet is that the manufacture of chutney and other condiments in which mangoes are largely used should be established.

Another form in which they can be utilised is that of preserving. So far this does not appear to have been done on any large scale, nor for market, but mangoes, well preserved, with or without sugar, is a most palatable dish, and could be used all the year round.

The following table shows the area and production for two years of the several districts in the colony, also increases and decreases in area and yield, and further columns showing the areas of productive and unproductive trees.

U.

District.	Area.		Production.		Increase + or Decrease - 1900.		Productive, 1900.	Non- Productive, 1900.
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.				
	Acres.	Acres.	Dozen.	Dozen.	Acres.	Dozen.	Acres.	Acres.
Bowen	1	48	200	41,084	+ 47	+ 40,884	35	13
Brisbane	7	7	5,135	2,768	...	- 2,367	3	4
Bundaberg	19	17	3,775	14,071	- 2	+ 10,296	17	...
Cairns	25	4	62,767	3,250	- 21	- 59,517	4	...
Cleveland	22	29	1,956	17,225	+ 7	+ 15,269	21	8
Cook	26	25	20,396	24,866	- 1	+ 4,470	14	11
Ingham	17	20	16,250	38,450	+ 3	+ 22,200	20	...
Logan	5	12	1,160	20,285	+ 7	+ 19,125	9	3
Mackay	12	19	8,100	23,480	+ 7	+ 15,380	19	...
Maryborough	16	23	1,940	7,790	+ 7	+ 5,850	17	6
Mourilyan	15	47	...	7,436	+ 32	+ 7,436	46	1
Palmer	5	3	6,000	4,600	- 2	- 1,400	3	...
Rockhampton	33	61	11,460	11,773	+ 28	+ 313	56	5
Townsville	26	27	42,820	23,514	+ 1	- 19,306	25	2
Other Districts	16	69	9,115	36,852	+ 53	+ 27,737	60	9
Total	245	411	191,074	277,444	+ 166	+ 86,370	349	62

STRAWBERRIES.

A considerable increase has been made in the area and yield of this delicious fruit during the past year, the area for 1900 being 121 acres, yielding 401,105 quarts, as against 87 acres yielding 185,870 quarts for 1899—an increase of 34 acres and 215,235 quarts of fruit.

The district of Maroochy (Blackall Ranges) was the greatest centre of production, 73 acres yielding 331,810 quarts for 1900, being 60 per cent. of the area and 90 per cent. of the crop of the whole colony. Cleveland returns 24 acres yielding 24,358 quarts for 1900, but the crop must have suffered severely from the drought, since an increase in the area of 16 acres over 1899 only brings an increased return of 3,798 quarts.

Several districts, whilst showing an increase in area, return a diminished yield owing to the drought, but the large increase and good yield at Maroochy make up for the decreases in other places, and enable an increase to be shown on both area and yield for the whole colony.

Queensland seems particularly well adapted for the production of this fruit, and the careful way in which the best fruit is got up ensures a good sale in the best market. Large quantities find a profitable outlet in the large southern markets, whilst the smaller fruit finds its way to factories for making into jam.

A table is given below showing the districts growing strawberries, and the area and yield for the years 1899 and 1900.

V.

Petty Sessions District.	Area.		Production.		Increase +. Decrease -.	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.	1899.	1899.
	Acres.	Acres.	Quarts.	Quarts.	Acres.	Quarts.
Brisbane	5	5	11,661	4,988	...	- 6,673
Bundaberg	4	6	3,490	2,687	+ 2	- 803
Cleveland	8	24	20,560	24,358	+ 16	+ 3,798
Gympie	2	3	560	240	+ 1	- 320
Ipswich	4	1	2,000	2,200	- 3	+ 200
Logan	1	1	660	350	...	- 310
Maroochy	58	73	141,287	361,810	+ 15	+ 220,523
Redcliffe	1	1	172	400	...	+ 228
South Brisbane	3	2	4,480	760	- 1	- 3,720
Townsville	1	1	1,000	700	...	- 300
Warwick ... ..	...	1	...	100	+ 1	+ 100
All other Districts ... ..	...	3	...	2,512	+ 3	+ 2,512
Total	87	121	185,870	401,105	+ 34	+ 215,235

APPLES.

The production of apples in Queensland has increased sufficiently to justify a few remarks and figures being made respecting them.

There were 238 acres under apples in the colony in 1900, of which 98 acres are returned as being nonproductive, *i.e.*, not yet bearing.

The greatest area under apples is in the Stanthorpe district, 174 acres being returned for 1900—Warwick and Toowoomba return 12 acres each, and Killarney returns 8 acres.

The total yield was 5,316 bushels for 1900 as against 3,306 bushels for 1899, being an increase of 2,010 bushels for 1900, but a portion of the apples produced in 1899 may have been included by some of the growers with other fruit in garden and orchard produce.

Stanthorpe returns 3,838 bushels of apples for 1900, or considerably over two-thirds of the entire production of the colony. Doubtless, too, the crop will be largely increased when the 83 acres at present unproductive come into bearing.

A table is given below showing the places where apples are grown, area and yield for each district for the years 1899 and 1900.

W.

	1899.		Increase + Decrease — 1900.	1899.		Increase + Decrease — 1900.	1900.	
	Acres.	Acres.		Bushels.	Bushels.		Productive.	Non-Productive.
Brisbane	1	2	+ 1	15	14	— 1	2	
Highfields	7	...	— 7	40	...	— 40		
Killarney	13	8	— 5	101	38	— 63	8	
Stanthorpe	101	174	+ 73	2,728	3,838	+ 1,110	91	83
Toowoomba	8	12	+ 4	310	649	+ 339	10	2
Warwick	2	12	+ 10	112	213	+ 101	10	2
All other Districts ... ..	...	30	+ 30	...	564	+ 564	19	11
	132	238	+ 106	3,306	5,316	+ 2,010	140	98

OTHER FRUITS.

In addition to the fruits which have been already specially commented upon in this report, sixteen other varieties found a place in the returns of the various collections, aggregating together an area of 852 acres.

There were no doubt many other kinds of fruit cultivated, but not in sufficiently large areas to be returned by name, and consequently they were included under "Gardens and Orchards."

COCOANUTS.—Of the 852 acres abovementioned, 504 acres were under cocoanuts, all of them in the Northern division of the colony. This area yielded 8,333 dozen of fruit—a very inconsiderable return, and yet nearly double the return for 1899, when 4,768 dozen were gathered from 509 acres; but the plantations are as yet very young.

PLUMS.—The next largest area was under plums of all kinds, namely, 88 acres, from which a return of 4,568 bushels was obtained. This was a large increase in production and a fair increase in area on the figures for 1899, when an area of 69 acres returned 1,540 bushels: an average of 22 bushels per acre against 52 bushels per acre in 1900.

CAPE GOOSEBERRIES.—From 68 acres of this fruit found entirely in the Southern division of the colony and on the east of the Main Range, 76,710 quarts were obtained. In 1899 a somewhat larger area was returned, 94 acres, but the yield was not relatively so large as in 1900, for from the additional 26 acres only 3,272 more quarts of fruit were picked. The Cape gooseberry, self-sown, is frequently found growing on the margin of cleared scrub lands, and yields large quantities of fruit which are picked by farmers' children both for home use and for sale. Owing to the scattered manner in which the plants so growing are found they often probably escape record, and patches not being, strictly speaking, cultivated, might be counted by the farmer in one year and not in another.

PEACHES.—Perhaps more than any other fruit does the peach escape return in consequence of the isolated manner in which it is cultivated. In the garden both of the farmer and of the suburban resident this fruit tree well-nigh unfailingly finds a place in greater or lesser number, and yet the instances in which it would be planted in groups of not less than one-quarter of an acre are very limited. Only 65 acres were returned as under peaches, yielding 4,463 bushels. As in 1899 only 38 acres were returned, it would appear that the returning of this fruit under its definite head and not in the general term "Orchard" was gaining ground.

The following fruits were returned as planted in areas exceeding 10 acres:—Lemons, 26 acres, 31,375 dozen; passion fruit, 16 acres, 3,463 bushels; custard apples, 15 acres, 221 bushels; persimmons, 14 acres, 428 bushels; apricots, 13 acres, 171 bushels; cherries, 12 acres, 119 bushels; peanuts, 11 acres, 20,216 bushels; pears, 10 acres, 117 bushels. Table XV. in the Appendix to this Report contains full particulars respecting "Other Fruit."

OTHER VEGETABLES.

There were 1,274 acres devoted to the cultivation of twelve varieties of vegetables, of which the following were the principal:—

CABBAGES.—Of the 515 acres under this vegetable 396 acres were in the Southern division, and from this latter area 210,937 dozen cabbages were obtained, or an average of 533 dozen head per acre—not a very large return if compared with what may sometimes be secured on limited areas, but over so large an acreage may be considered very satisfactory. The remaining area, however, of 119 acres yielded somewhat less, as from it 44,099 dozen heads only were cut, an average of 371 dozen heads

per acre, the crop for the total area being 255,036 dozen cabbages. The return, however, for 1900 exceeded that for 1899 by considerably more than twice the area, and rather more than three times the crop, for in the latter year 227 acres were planted, yielding 80,032 dozen.

TURNIPS.—Turnips were returned as the crop of 191 acres, and gave a yield of 1,760 tons—a large increase in area and also in production over the returns for 1899, when from 78 acres 1,004 tons were dug, but the average yield was not so good in 1900, being only 9 tons to each acre against 13 tons in 1899.

TOMATOES.—There were 18,950 bushels of tomatoes obtained from 170 acres, a return of 111 bushels to each acre from this most prolific plant. A large quantity of this fruit is used in the manufacture of jam, and exported to the southern capitals. The results for 1900 show a great increase in production over 1899. In the latter year from 134 acres 4,561 cwt., equal to 12,771 bushels, were gathered.

CUCUMBERS.—From the 160 acres planted with this vine 71,799 dozen cucumbers were gathered, whilst in 1899 118 acres yielded 46,403 dozen—an average in each year of 449 and 393 respectively—so that for this crop the increases in 1900 were 42 acres 25,396 dozen, and 56 dozen average to the acre. The cultivation of the cucumber is almost entirely confined to the eastern portion of the Southern division.

ONIONS.—There should be scope for a further production of this vegetable, as 3,536 tons, valued at £19,083, were imported during 1900. The production was 5,951 cwt. from 143 acres, which at the import value would give a return of nearly £11 per acre. In 1899 the area planted was about one-third of that in 1900—namely, 51 acres; but from this area 2,964 cwt. were secured—a yield of 58 cwt. per acre against 40 cwt. in 1900.

Of vegetables of which the area planted exceeded 10 acres the following were the acreage and yield:—Beans, 32 acres, 3,738 bushels; peas, 32 acres, 2,959 bushels; cauliflowers, 10 acres, 1,835 dozen. For further particulars see Appendix, Table No. XV.

OTHER MISCELLANEOUS CROPS.

An area of 255 acres was comprised last year under crops that may be thus described:—

BROOM MILLET.

This plant yields a double crop; the seed, which besides being required to sow next year's planting, also is of some value as a feed for poultry.

The total area planted with broom millet last year was 106 acres, from 104 of which 51,240 lb. of broom straw were obtained, the remaining 2 acres were returned as yielding 3,920 lb. of seed. The area for straw would also have seed; but as the fibre is easily damaged unless the seed is carefully extracted, it is sold with the seed in straw, and a separate record of the quantity of seed obtained is not recorded, but its weight is of course included with that of the straw. In 1899 there were 8 acres returned as for straw, yielding 6,960 lb., so that this crop increased for 1900 by 96 acres and 44,280 lb.; broom millet has therefore assumed a position of some importance amongst the productive crops of the colony. The average return was, however, much less satisfactory in 1900, for whilst in 1899 each acre yielded 870 lb., in the following year the average per acre was 493 lb. only. This was due to the poor return obtained from 50 acres planted at Toowoomba, for which 11,200 lb. only were reaped against 27,496 lb. from an area of 25 acres at Laidley.

Manufacturers of brooms and brushes have again this year kindly furnished information with respect to the quantities of broom millet used by them during the past two years.

CENTRAL.

				Queensland Grown.		Grown Elsewhere.		Total.	
				Tons.		Tons.		Tons.	
1899	...	...	...	10	...	...	not given	...	not given
1900	...	...	...	37.5	...	...	10.5	...	48

The consumption of home-produced millet has nearly quadrupled. Attention was drawn last year to the fact that from a number of small patches of land, too small to record, a considerable amount in the aggregate had been cut, so that the quantity returned as grown by the farmers was much short of that used by the manufacturers.

The quantity grown during 1900, 51,240 lb., approaches much nearer to the quantity used, 75,000 lb., than was the case in 1899, but the difference is still considerable. The crop is one that lends itself to remunerative cultivation in small areas such as are below the minimum fixed for collection, and thus escapes record, whilst every pound is sure to reach the market.

It is satisfactory to note that the import of this article declined, if only slightly, during 1900, as further showing an increased use of the home-grown raw material. The following statement shows the value of broom millet imported, and the country whence, for the past two years:—

						1899.	1900.
						£	
New South Wales	...	...	...	...	...	1,964	1,541
United States	...	...	...	...	...	103	—
Total	...	...	...	...	...	2,067	1,541

The Customs returns give quantities in packages only, so that those figures are of little value.

MANGEL-WURZEL.

Mangel-wurzel increased from 35 acres 582 tons in 1899 to 85 acres and 821 tons in 1900. The remainder of miscellaneous crops include sisal hemp, kafir corn, canary seed, cassava, manioc or tapioca, chicory, cow pea, rosellas, sugarbeet, sunflower, prairie and other grass seeds.

There were increases on—

							Acres.	Acres.
Wheat ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,469	
Oats ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	938	
Barley ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,428	
Rye ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	79	
Maize ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,641	
Sugar-cane ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	454	
Sorghum ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	268	
								10,277

and decreases on—

Lucerne...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,550	
Panicum ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	92	
Other green crops	...	...	...	...	...	...	704	
								4,346

Net increase 5,931

Further particulars are contained in Table No. 16 in the Appendix.

ARTIFICIALLY-SOWN PASTURE.

The returns for 1900 show a material increase in this item as compared with those of 1899, and from the table given below it will be seen where the increases have been, the figures being comparative for the two years.

Y.

ARTIFICIALLY-SOWN PASTURE.

					1899.	1900.	Increase, 1900.	Decrease, 1900.
					Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Southern, East ...	...	...	...	...	4,368	2,152	...	2,216
Southern, West ...	...	...	...	...	12,897	19,881	6,984	...
Central, East ...	...	...	...	...	20	685	665	...
Central, West ...	...	...	...	...	90	510	420	...
Northern, East ...	...	...	...	...	732	462	...	270
Northern, West ...	...	...	...	...	1,097	1,208	111	...
Total ...	...	...	...	...	19,204	24,898	5,694	...

From the above it will be seen that the eastern portion of the Southern division shows only 2,152 acres under artificially-sown grasses for 1900 as against 4,368 acres for 1899, being a decrease of 2,216 acres. But in the western portion of the Southern division 19,881 are returned for 1900 against 12,897 acres for 1899, being an increase during the past year of 6,984 acres.

The districts showing the largest increases are—Toowoomba, with 4,779 acres; Killarney, with 1,182 acres; Warwick, with 1,226; and Allora, with 692 acres over the areas returned in 1899.

In the Central division there has been a substantial increase, for the eastern portion returns 685 acres for 1900 as against 20 acres for 1899, being an increase of 665 acres; whilst the western portion returns 510 acres for 1900 as against 90 acres for 1899, an increase of 420 acres.

In the Northern division there has been a falling off in the eastern portion of 270 acres for 1900 as against 1899; whilst in the western portion of the division there has been an increase of 111 acres.

Doubtless the weather experienced during the past year has militated against an extension of this branch of farming, but its value is too well recognised to allow it to be neglected. With the spread of dairying and the necessity for keeping a better class of animals and providing them with better and more nutritious food comes the need for artificially-sown grasses. To provide hay and green food for the animals will soon be recognised as a necessary part of both dairying and fattening, and when these areas are in greater evidence where rainfalls are fairly reliable, or where rainfall is supplemented by irrigation, a pasturage will be provided for starving stock in bad years, and they will in time become fattening grounds for store stock, as persons find it profitable to grow animals in one locality and send them to another to top them off for market.

It is doubtless in connection with dairying that the greatest use for artificially-formed pastures will be found, and their use and the use of small paddocks in which stock are frequently changed will give greater returns from smaller areas than are now obtained from the larger areas usually devoted to pasture at the present time.

On the Darling Downs the lucerne paddocks are used to top-off sheep for market, and it is found more profitable than attempting to rear sheep in many cases.

Given good seasons, a considerable extension of pastures of this kind is anticipated.

ENSILAGE.

A decrease of 278 tons of ensilage for 1900 as compared with 1899 is recorded, the total returns being 1,554 tons in 1899 against 1,276 tons in 1900. Whilst there have been increases in some districts these have not been able to counterbalance the decrease in others.

Although great expectations were formed of the value of ensilage, especially for feeding dairy cows, the quantity made has steadily diminished for some years, the cause of such decrease not being

quite clear. Whether it is not always a success in the making, or whether, as is stated to be the case in the past year, that the prevailing drought has prevented the growth of materials with which ensilage pits and stacks could be filled or made, the fact remains that it has not increased in quantity.

Certainly much valuable food goes to waste in times of plenty, and with rapid growth such as takes place in showery weather large quantities of food are available, but that something is wanting is quite clear from the fact that its use is not extending and that some persons who have made and used it for some time, make it, if at all, in smaller quantities.

Its chief merit is that it does not require fine weather as does hay, and that the fermentation set up changes the character of the materials and so renders the food more nutritive in its qualities.

The following table shows the number of tons of ensilage produced in the colony during 1899 and 1900 with increases and decreases respectively.

Z.
ENSILAGE.

								1899.	1900.	Increase. 1900.	Decrease. 1900.
								Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Rockhampton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	808	635	...	173
Allora	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	200	100	...
Brisbane	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	85	60	...	25
Caboolture	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	65	10	...	55
Esk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	Nil	...	60
Goodna	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	35	...	5
Harrisville	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	112	Nil	...	112
Roma	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	80	20	...
Rosewood	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	70	Nil	...	70
Toowoomba	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	15	...	45
Childers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	30	...
Gympie	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	28	...
Maroochy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	94	94	...
Redcliffe	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	50	...
Bollon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Warwick	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	...
Gladstone	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Mackay	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	12	...
Mareeba	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	20	...
Other Districts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	94	...	...	...
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,554	1,276	...	278

J. HUGHES,
Registrar-General.

Statistical Office, Brisbane, 29th June, 1901.

APPENDIX.

LIVE STOCK.

Table No. I.

RETURN of the NUMBER of HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, and PIGS, in the various PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS comprised in the SOUTHERN DIVISION of the Colony on the 31st DECEMBER, 1900.

Petty Sessions Districts.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Petty Sessions Districts.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
Adavale	1,356	9,809	212,995	4	Laidley	3,192	15,913	599	4,543
Allora	6,082	15,689	78,963	3,052	Logan	2,320	12,011	44	2,371
Augathella	1,517	19,715	53,433	33	Marburg	1,936	9,713	14	4,403
Beaudesert	3,880	46,119	273	3,910	Maroochy	1,671	8,289	118	1,190
Biggenden	1,541	13,674	6	661	Maryborough	5,607	24,284	313	2,259
Bollon	3,170	18,082	174,740	113	Mitchell	4,683	69,489	112,756	227
Brisbane... ..	7,625	15,380	1,548	3,913	Nanango	5,859	83,997	6,736	1,200
Bundaberg	7,961	42,193	2,826	3,154	Nerang	2,097	11,880	109	2,616
Caboolture	1,153	7,949	44	1,493	Redcliffe	1,988	11,846	...	2,853
Charleville	3,087	18,127	135,241	314	Roma	5,761	62,308	143,999	627
Childers	2,545	4,671	1,928	1,510	Rosewood	2,825	21,102	384	4,165
Cleveland	592	1,839	130	528	St. George	3,830	7,105	504,280	148
Condamine	2,125	26,030	11,849	372	South Brisbane	4,048	9,205	1,007	3,715
Crow's Nest	3,038	18,582	547	2,622	Southwood	700	5,135	23,836	94
Cunnamulla	1,646	17,002	386,829	197	Stanthorpe	2,392	18,765	79,747	465
Dalby	9,030	38,259	655,845	2,365	Surat	2,456	14,544	275,591	130
Diamantina (one-half)	1,358	13,908	63	25	Tambo	2,935	15,339	235,189	178
Dugandan	3,443	27,328	115	4,183	Taroom	6,276	124,866	39,576	75
Eidsvold	3,452	79,595	17,384	159	Tenninger	1,780	22,120	67	316
Esk	5,551	71,439	946	2,804	Texas	1,385	11,137	4,349	243
Eulo	307	2,939	59,229	51	Thargomindah	4,362	31,896	139,210	57
Gatton	5,508	26,211	422	6,445	Tiaro	4,390	43,699	389	1,746
Gaydah	5,306	124,422	1,111	362	Toowoomba	12,634	43,777	676,897	6,916
Gin Gin	2,984	37,505	540	1,014	Warwick	8,467	37,484	201,781	3,788
Goodna	684	2,947	...	414	Windorah (one-half)	1,857	12,815	52,660	27
Goondiwindi	2,850	18,962	342,128	141	Woodford	2,356	23,634	166	1,255
Gympie	6,588	51,191	1,978	2,373	Yeulba	1,233	7,113	344	96
Harrisville	2,725	20,768	409	3,227					
Highfields	2,272	6,948	662	2,215	Total for 1900	208,471	1,604,910	4,879,206	97,238
Hungerford	559	971	129,492	9	Total for 1899	221,479	2,042,387	6,080,238	113,001
Inglewood	2,417	18,775	99,258	296					
Ipswich	5,020	22,795	661	2,693	Increase in 1900 ... ..	...	...	...	...
Killarney	2,109	5,620	7,450	883	Decrease in 1900	13,008	437,477	1,201,032	15,763

Table No. II.

RETURN of the NUMBER of HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, and PIGS, in the various PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS comprised in the CENTRAL DIVISION of the Colony on 31st DECEMBER, 1900.

Petty Sessions Districts.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Petty Sessions Districts.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
Alpha	4,655	70,114	26,442	401	Mount Morgan	3,005	9,876	209	213
Aramac	1,519	6,366	124,306	51	Muttaborra	5,611	16,978	796,962	20
Banana	4,718	89,521	22,840	29	Rockhampton	21,800	168,371	59,384	4,250
Barcaldine	3,489	2,652	401,328	211	St. Lawrence	6,234	108,979	22,593	454
Blackall	3,669	2,841	373,068	173	Springsure	8,679	126,287	351,399	315
Boulia	*	*	*	*	Windorah (one-half)	1,857	12,816	52,660	28
Clermont	11,589	107,473	602,410	698	Winton	*	*	*	*
Diamantina (one-half)	1,358	13,908	63	25					
Emerald	2,438	35,600	3,270	285	Total for 1900	105,761	925,890	3,436,720	9,420
Gladstone	8,179	80,928	21,616	681	Total for 1899	128,272	1,484,370	6,904,226	9,892
Isisford	1,882	7,349	146,614	34					
Longreach	5,253	9,953	412,599	344	Increase for 1900 ... ..	...	...	...	...
Mackay (Nebo collection, say 6/11ths)	9,826	55,878	18,957	1,208	Decrease for 1900... ..	22,511	558,480	3,467,506	472

* Boulia and Winton now included in Northern Division.

Table No. III.

RETURN of the NUMBER of HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, and PIGS, in the various PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS comprised in the NORTHERN DIVISION of the Colony on 31st DECEMBER, 1900.

Petty Sessions Districts.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Petty Sessions Districts.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
Ayr	4,376	22,080	1,678	1,391	Mourilyan	919	849	...	268
Boulia	6,496	79,790	48,373	64	Norman	6,678	237,903	34,699	154
Bowen	10,737	95,892	3,964	848	Palmer	2,670	12,965	...	122
Burke	6,154	139,702	380	167	Ravenswood	2,202	14,251	69	592
Cairns	1,892	3,081	60	1,086	Somerset	155	784	...	124
Camooweal	2,791	44,989	33,001	3	Thornborough	2,678	32,314	...	112
Cape River	5,090	67,848	24,144	529	Townsville	5,939	18,160	92	1,581
Cardwell	1,158	6,967	...	562	Winton	8,039	45,066	449,882	56
Charters Towers	15,709	101,901	30,828	2,110	Total for 1900	142,556	1,547,391	2,023,259	15,529
Cloncurry	8,693	172,292	270,093	241	Total for 1899	129,376	1,527,079	2,242,015	16,225
Cook	3,457	27,550	...	510	Increase in 1900	13,180	20,312	...	...
Croydon	2,432	33,971	2	474	Decrease in 1900 ... ..	...	...	218,756	696
Douglas	735	846	...	267	Total Colony, 1900	456,788	4,078,191	10,339,185	122,187
Etheridge	6,638	78,243	...	127	Total Colony, 1899	479,127	5,053,836	15,226,479	139,118
Herberton	7,058	47,502	78	725	Increase in 1900 ... ..	...	...	...	...
Hughenden	14,363	194,255	1,109,882	597	Decrease in 1900	22,339	975,645	4,887,294	16,931
Ingham	5,530	19,291	205	1,537					
Mackay (less Nebo col- lection, say 5/11ths)	8,190	46,565	15,797	1,008					
Mareeba	1,777	2,334	32	274					

Table No. IV.

RETURN of the NUMBER of CATTLE and SHEEP in the various PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS comprised in the SOUTHERN DIVISION of the Colony for the Years 1899 and 1900, together with the INCREASE or DECREASE in the latter Year.

Petty Sessions Districts.	Cattle.				Sheep.			
	1899.	1900.	Increase.	Decrease.	1899.	1900.	Increase.	Decrease.
Adavale	24,808	9,809	...	14,999	460,380	212,995	...	247,385
Allora	14,406	15,689	1,283	...	74,497	78,963	4,466	...
Angathella	28,408	19,715	...	8,693	132,186	53,433	...	78,753
Beaudesert	46,055	46,119	64	...	298	273	...	25
Biggenden	15,645	13,674	...	1,971	...	6	6	...
Bollon	51,654	18,082	...	33,572	277,765	174,740	...	103,025
Brisbane	14,886	15,380	494	...	1,270	1,548	278	...
Bundaberg	50,385	42,193	...	8,192	636	2,826	2,190	...
Caboolture	7,625	7,949	324	...	96	44	...	52
Charleville	37,707	18,127	...	19,580	220,059	135,241	...	84,818
Childers	4,450	4,671	221	...	504	1,928	1,424	...
Cleveland	2,174	1,839	...	335	90	130	40	...
Condamine	30,470	26,030	...	4,440	20,928	11,849	...	9,079
Crow's Nest	18,089	18,582	493	...	294	547	253	...
Cunnamulla	29,497	17,002	...	12,495	693,909	386,829	...	307,080
Dalby	40,053	38,259	...	1,794	561,229	655,845	94,616	...
Diamantina (one-half)	44,475	13,908	...	30,567	368	63	...	305
Dugandan	23,357	27,328	3,971	...	126	115	...	11
Eidsvold	74,757	79,595	4,838	...	16,928	17,384	456	...
Esk	68,974	71,439	2,465	...	1,034	946	...	88
Eulo	5,017	2,939	...	2,078	113,387	59,229	...	54,158
Gatton	22,725	26,211	3,486	...	392	422	30	...
Gayndah	133,842	124,422	...	9,420	1,554	1,111	...	443
Gin Gin	38,267	37,505	...	762	523	540	17	...
Goodna	3,027	2,947	...	80	40	...	...	40
Goondiwindi	17,538	18,962	1,424	...	338,692	342,128	3,436	...
Gympie	56,190	51,191	...	4,999	1,942	1,978	36	...
Harrisville	18,456	20,768	2,312	...	13,627	409	...	13,218
Highfields	7,435	6,948	...	487	869	662	...	207
Hungerford	1,796	971	...	825	177,914	129,492	...	48,422
Inglewood	18,726	18,775	49	...	67,374	99,258	31,884	...
Ipswich	21,003	22,795	1,792	...	406	661	255	...
Killarney	4,750	5,620	870	...	...	7,450	7,450	...
Laidley	14,325	15,913	1,588	...	969	599	...	370
Logan	11,986	12,011	25	...	30	44	14	...
Marburg	9,105	9,713	608	...	1	14	13	...
Maroochy	8,736	8,289	...	447	133	118	...	15
Maryborough	22,268	24,284	2,016	...	3,356	313	...	3,043
Mitchell	93,750	69,489	...	24,261	98,570	112,756	14,186	...
Nanango	85,000	83,997	...	1,003	6,810	6,736	...	74
Nerang	11,764	11,880	116	...	112	109	...	3
Redcliffe	12,096	11,846	...	250	1	...	...	1
Roma	74,860	62,308	...	12,552	123,228	143,999	20,771	...
Rosewood	20,136	21,102	966	...	205	384	179	...
St. George	8,067	7,105	...	962	559,636	504,280	...	55,356
South Brisbane	9,119	9,205	86	...	519	1,007	488	...
Southwood	10,421	5,135	...	5,286	10,851	23,836	12,985	...
Stanthorpe	16,733	18,765	2,032	...	58,712	79,747	21,035	...
Surat	19,935	14,544	...	5,391	244,646	275,591	30,945	...
Tambo	19,645	15,339	...	4,306	362,481	235,189	...	127,292
Taroom	145,423	124,866	...	20,557	61,728	39,576	...	22,152
Tenningering	22,255	22,120	...	135	80	67	...	13
Texas	8,020	11,137	3,117	...	2,698	4,349	1,651	...
Thargomindah	217,030	31,896	...	185,134	359,363	139,210	...	220,153
Tiaro	44,022	43,699	...	323	274	389	115	...
Toowoomba	46,295	43,777	...	2,518	625,827	676,897	51,070	...
Warwick	35,154	37,484	2,330	...	184,537	201,781	17,244	...
Windsor (one-half)	68,850	12,815	...	56,035	195,677	52,660	...	143,017
Woodford	19,751	23,634	3,883	...	212	166	...	46
Yeulba	10,994	7,113	...	3,881	265	344	79	...
Totals	2,042,387	1,604,910	40,853	478,330	6,080,238	4,879,206	317,612	1,518,644

Table No. V.

RETURN of the NUMBER of CATTLE and SHEEP in the various PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS comprised in the CENTRAL DIVISION of the Colony for the Years 1899 and 1900, together with the INCREASE or DECREASE in the latter Year.

Petty Sessions Districts.	Cattle.				Sheep.			
	1899.	1900.	Increase.	Decrease.	1899.	1900.	Increase.	Decrease.
Alpha	97,821	70,114	...	27,707	56,437	26,442	...	29,995
Aramac	13,856	6,366	...	7,490	177,940	124,306	...	53,634
Banana	92,537	89,521	...	3,016	17,897	22,840	4,943	...
Barcaldine	9,468	2,652	...	6,816	560,602	401,328	...	159,274
Blackall	4,566	2,841	...	1,725	597,728	373,068	...	224,660
Boulia	171,470	*	...	171,470	139,649	*	...	139,649
Clermont	150,802	107,473	...	43,329	753,934	602,410	...	151,524
Diamantina (one-half)	44,474	13,908	...	30,566	367	63	...	304
Emerald	42,522	35,600	...	6,922	67,113	3,270	...	63,843
Gladstone	86,336	80,928	...	5,408	5,925	21,616	15,691	...
Isisford	16,192	7,349	...	8,843	480,014	146,614	...	333,400
Longreach	52,278	9,953	...	42,325	1,277,898	412,599	...	865,299
Mackay (Nebo collection, say six-elevenths)...	47,937	55,878	7,941	...	7,711	18,957	11,246	...
Mount Morgan	9,864	9,876	12	...	97	209	112	...
Muttaburra	38,704	16,978	...	21,726	1,346,335	796,962	...	549,373
Rockhampton	181,402	168,371	...	13,031	33,552	59,384	25,832	...
St. Lawrence	118,540	108,979	...	9,561	970	22,593	21,623	...
Springsure	138,417	126,287	...	12,130	388,196	351,399	...	36,797
Windsorah (one-half)	68,850	12,816	...	56,034	195,676	52,660	...	143,016
Winton	98,334	*	...	98,334	796,185	*	...	796,185
Totals	1,484,370	925,890	7,953	566,433	6,904,226	3,436,720	79,447	3,546,953

* These Districts are now included in the Northern Division.

Table No. VI.

RETURN of the NUMBER of CATTLE and SHEEP in the various PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS comprising the NORTHERN DIVISION of the Colony for the Years 1899 and 1900, together with the INCREASE or DECREASE in the latter Year.

Petty Sessions Districts.	Cattle.				Sheep.			
	1899.	1900.	Increase.	Decrease.	1899.	1900.	Increase.	Decrease.
Ayr	17,845	22,080	4,235	...	1,120	1,678	558	...
Boulia	*	79,790	79,790	...	*	48,373	48,373	...
Bowen	84,092	95,892	11,800	...	2,898	3,964	1,066	...
Burke	134,864	139,702	4,838	...	...	380	380	...
Cairns	2,924	3,081	157	...	65	60	...	5
Camooweal	26,910	44,989	18,079	...	12,003	33,001	20,998	...
Cape River	76,905	67,848	...	9,057	...	24,144	24,144	...
Cardwell	5,170	6,967	1,797	...	50	...	...	50
Charters Towers	120,769	101,901	...	18,868	810	30,828	30,018	...
Cloncurry	239,833	172,292	...	67,541	455,724	270,093	...	185,631
Cook	26,912	27,550	638	...	...	...	...	...
Croydon	38,133	33,971	...	4,162	3	2	...	1
Douglas	1,331	846	...	485	...	...	...	...
Etheridge	73,501	78,243	4,742	...	...	...	...	...
Herberton	44,199	47,502	3,303	...	128	78	...	50
Hughenden	228,124	194,255	...	33,869	1,729,242	1,109,882	...	619,360
Ingham	22,414	19,291	...	3,123	380	205	...	175
Mackay (less Nebo collection, say five-elevenths)	57,519	46,565	...	10,954	9,253	15,797	6,544	...
Mareeba	1,971	2,334	363	...	...	32	32	...
Mourilyan	787	849	62	...	...	...	...	...
Norman	241,480	237,903	...	3,577	30,240	34,699	4,459	...
Palmer	13,254	12,965	...	289	...	...	...	...
Ravenswood	19,009	14,251	...	4,758	...	69	69	...
Somerset	173	784	611	...	...	...	...	...
Thornborough	31,556	32,314	758	...	...	...	...	...
Townsville	17,404	18,160	756	...	99	92	...	7
Winton	*	45,066	45,066	...	*	449,882	449,882	...
Totals	1,527,079	1,547,391	176,995	156,683	2,242,015	2,023,259	586,523	805,279

* These Districts were previously included in the Central Division.

LIVE STOCK SLAUGHTERED.

Table No. VII.

u RETURN of LIVE STOCK SLAUGHTERED for PRESERVATION as Food, or FREEZING or for TALLOW, in the COLONY of QUEENSLAND, during the YEARS 1890-1900, with the Quantity of MEAT, TALLOW, LARD, &c., produced.

Year.										Number of Establishments.	Average Number of Hands Employed.	NUMBER SLAUGHTERED.							MEAT PRESERVED OR FROZEN.					Extract and Essence of Meat Produced.	Quantity of Tallow Produced.	Quantity of Lard Produced.
												Cattle.			Sheep.			Hogs. †	Beef.		Mutton.		Bacon. ‡			
												For Freezing.	For Preserv- ing.	For Boiling Down.	For Freezing.	For Preserv- ing.	For Boiling Down.		Frozen.	Preserved.	Frozen.	Preserved.				
1891	8	286	8,784	21,919	...	122,022	29,111	...	17,790	lb.	lb.	16,194,329*	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	tons.	lb.							
1892	16	989	24,567	28,683	32,000	162,662	170,683	317,421	19,329	17,862,694	3,008,090	5,650,907	1,751,909	1,149,778	135,128	2,632	15,435									
1893	25	1,129	39,828	43,543	41,166	66,025	150,668	1,070,082	56,145	28,137,501	7,751,031	2,851,255	1,726,541	3,971,018	148,135	6,639	75,102									
1894	31	1,127	48,558	77,916	67,611	57,787	394,405	417,328	48,539	33,305,023	17,640,457	2,749,042	5,862,373	4,695,280	228,264	11,183	56,764									
1895	39	2,848	80,487	104,969	98,374	75,600	385,060	743,257	58,870	50,349,956	9,849,396	3,064,458	5,088,502	4,941,512	168,805	15,683	84,070									
1896	35	2,838	76,483	77,719	87,562	100,550	262,151	430,696	67,034	50,245,213	19,197,234	4,571,086	2,914,902	511,533	21,263	159,093										
1897	38	2,604	111,267	62,342	85,754	70,865	259,536	615,454	76,719	62,764,267	635,037,555	2,952,290	1,970,959	5,108,726	517,011	12,736	203,972									
1898	46	2,876	112,940	65,966	147,528	61,258	69,006	146,845	85,510	64,676,868	25,181,919	2,355,030	967,363	6,103,485	463,386	13,651	167,743									
1899	47	3,156	117,668	140,815	127,983	119,964	144,345	215,509	101,704	78,173,578	47,223,452	4,966,390	2,616,318	6,973,007	1,593,285	13,610	16,194									
1900 {	Metropolitan	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bowen	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Burke	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Caboolture	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Cairns	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Cardwell	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Charters Towers	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Esk	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Gatton	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Gladstone	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Goodna	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Harrisville	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Hughenden	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Laidley	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Mackay	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Maryborough	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nanango	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Norman	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rockhampton	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Lawrence	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Toowoomba	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Townsville	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Warwick	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

* Of this 4,255,733 lb. were preserved, and 11,938,596 lb. frozen. † In 1893 and subsequent years, the pigs killed by farmers for conversion into bacon or pork are included. ‡ Includes 682,955 lb. salted. § Includes 326,232 lb. salted.
 ¶ Exclusive of pork (fresh and salt), made by farmers, in addition to their bacon. ¶ Prior to this year returns were not separated. a. Includes 182,586 lb. salted. b. Includes 106,499 lb. salted. c. Includes 1,972,000 lb. salted.
 d. Includes 1,192,152 lb. salted. e. Includes 1,153,285 lb. salted.

LIVE STOCK SLAUGHTERED—BY-PRODUCTS.

Table No. VIII.

OTHER PRODUCTS of MEAT PRESERVING, &C., ESTABLISHMENTS in the COLONY of QUEENSLAND—RETURN for SIX YEARS.

Year.	No.	Manure.		Edible Fats.		Hides.		Skins.		Bones.		Horns and Hoofs.	Hair.		Oils, &c.		Total Value.
		Tons	£	lb.	£	Number.	£	Number.	£	Tons	£	£	lb.	£	Gallons.	£	£
1895	36	4,505	11,124	560,219	6,599	280,781	161,795	1,170,559	160,545	1,332	5 001	3,905	59,434	1,979	28,454	2,661	353,609
1896	35	7,321	13,627	597,000	1,950	239,305	141,559	770,482	119,370	683	2,808	2,288	39,220	1,238	23,782	2,350	285,190
1897	38	10,738	24,654	673,385	8,455	259,160	161,979	928,330	125,043	954	3,696	3,307	76,539	1,848	18,478	1,819	330,801
1898	46	15,072	36,133	1,083,523	14,189	325,933	227,175	275,824	39,736	991	4,685	5,615	72,358	1,871	27,678	2,899	332,303
1899	47	17,347	56,446	985,121	13,163	395,929	337,931	524,215	97,016	1,265	6,363	10,819	92,487	2,359	26,000	2,831	526,928
1900	27	9,519	31,518	1,362,786	19,792	265,051	235,239	191,445	28,850	655	3,739	12,900	39,089	2,001	17,590	2,022	336,123

Table No. IX.

RETURN showing the NUMBER of CATTLE, SHEEP, &C., SLAUGHTERED (under the supervision of Inspectors of Slaughter-Houses only) for CONSUMPTION for FOOD in EACH of the DIVISIONS of QUEENSLAND, together with the AVERAGE DEAD WEIGHT of each ANIMAL and the ESTIMATED QUANTITY CONSUMED PER CAPITA, for 1900.

DIVISION.	*POPULATION.	NUMBER SLAUGHTERED.					AVERAGE DEAD WEIGHT.					LB. CONSUMED PER CAPITA.					
	Estimated for the Year.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Calves.	Lambs.	Pigs.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Calves.	Lambs.	Pigs.	Beef.	Mutton.	Veal.	Lamb.	Pork.	Total
Southern	297,915	95,519	311,010	16,012	6,580	21,599	Lb. 605	Lb. 47	Lb. 54	Lb. 30	Lb. 96	194	49	3	1	7	254
Central	48,453	22,968	64,252	926	1,041	5,774	550	38	116	26	57	261	50	2	...	7	320
Northern	105,373	58,907	99,276	799	411	11,478	549	37	112	27	71	307	35	1	...	8	351
Total	451,741	177,394	474,538	17,737	8,032	38,851	579	44	59	30	83	228	46	2	1	7	284

* The figures quoted in this column refer to the estimated number of consumers returned by inspectors of slaughter-houses.

Table No. X.

RETURN showing the TOTAL EXTENT of LAND under CULTIVATION, and the AREA under each DESCRIPTION of CROP, in the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS of the Colony of Queensland, during the Year 1900.

Petty Sessions Districts.	Total Extent of Land under permanent Pasture with Artificially Sown Grasses.	Total Extent of Land under Cultivation.	Land in Fallow and Totally Unproductive.	Total Extent of Land under Crop.	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.				Pumpkins.	Cotton.	Sugar-cane.	Arrowroot.	Tobacco.	COFFEE.		Hay (All Kinds).	Green Fodder.	VINES.		Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.	Other Crops.	Gardens and Orchards															
					Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.	Bearing.	Not yet Bearing.						Bearing.	Not yet Bearing.																								
							Malting.	Other.																																						
SOUTHERN.																																														
East of Main Range.																																														
Beaudesert	40	4,599	114	4,485	2,790	243	69	203	543	573	1	3												
Biggenden	...	1,808	634	1,174	1	782	58	25	22	114	98	5	2	...	1													
Brisbane	...	5,065	43	5,022	...	...	...	...	566	1	...	454	295	191	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	768	1,368	136	25	174	446	65	295	238	...	...												
Bundaberg	...	28,319	2,508	25,811	...	...	...	...	3,224	...	...	111	73	140	...	20,568	...	...	...	...	...	670	640	19	3	13	4	25	42	279	...	...												
Caboolture	1	1,144	76	1,068	1	...	...	...	508	...	...	131	62	34	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	43	162	6	...	...	...	8	55	29	27	...
Childers	293	18,430	1,835	16,595	...	3	...	...	1,188	7	...	87	48	34	...	14,461	...	...	...	...	...	330	312	9	1	8	7	40	13	47	...	...												
Cleveland	...	1,003	133	870	...	...	...	...	28	...	...	24	28	17	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	22	67	17	4	260	94	126	151	31	...	...												
Crow's Nest (part of)	191	4,584	249	4,335	182	...	78	6	2,893	...	...	489	1	341	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	108	172	3	1	...	...	5	20	35	...	...												
Dugandan	5	11,681	44	11,637	6	...	9	6	7,569	...	...	157	14	1,418	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	567	1,782	13	1	23	1	5	7	54	...	...												
Eidsvold	7	473	35	433	...	...	...	...	315	...	...	8	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	76	2	10	...	...	...	...	2	23	...	...												
Esk	104	4,825	247	4,581	2	2	...	...	2,489	3	...	145	123	442	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	282	1,027	9	1	...	...	5	46	4	...	...												
Gatton	414	22,385	699	21,686	62	12	98	4	9,213	40	...	2,260	101	2,686	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,678	2,205	72	7	...	3	181	49	15	...	...												
Gayndah	...	538	46	492	10	1	...	5	257	1	...	24	18	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	76	64	2	...	...	...	9	3	3	...	...												
Gin Gin	...	6,186	507	5,679	5	1,275	84	63	32	...	3,704	165	300	5	1	...	1	...	11	1	32													
Goodna	...	771	9	762	...	...	...	...	429	...	...	23	2	47	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	98	146	8	1	...	...	...	5	3	...	...												
Gympie	179	3,657	133	3,524	1	1	1,228	204	54	236	...	52	1	944	478	32	6	...	1	...	82	52	149													
Harrisville	...	8,054	79	7,975	3	...	18	11	3,977	2	...	77	81	617	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,731	1,417	10	...	...	...	6	6	19	...	...												
Ipswich	...	3,650	129	3,521	...	...	...	...	1,243	...	...	256	41	66	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	741	1,071	15	2	...	2	11	37	35	...	...												
Laidley	7	15,143	86	15,057	21	...	29	...	9,022	4	...	517	157	568	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,660	987	24	3	...	...	9	46	10	...	...												
Logan	1	5,293	118	5,175	2	...	...	...	1,751	3	26	536	262	89	...	...	123	...	...	...	...	258	496	42	7	186	65	74	146	104	...	...												
Marburg	...	9,144	11	9,133	...	...	...	...	5,119	...	...	156	188	424	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	435	2,015	39	...	6	2	19	127	4	...	...												
Maroochy	685	3,457	3	3,454	...	5	...	...	571	...	...	85	34	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	93	256	10	...	599	42	562	121	148	...	...												
Maryborough	1	3,641	269	3,372	...	...	...	...	396	...	...	210	121	32	...	728	...	...	...	...	...	660	568	53	6	127	35	261	66	103	...	...												
Nanango	92	3,128	133	2,995	482	3	13	2	1,798	...	...	39	7	196	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	265	129	3	...	...	...	1	3	54	...	...												
Nerang	92	4,504	65	4,439	3	...	...	...	2,159	3	...	297	48	54	...	885	250	...	...	...	...	223	287	16	2	3	...	154	30	45	...	...												
Redcliffe	40	5,223	5	5,218	...	1	...	...	2,904	...	...	550	107	57	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	682	740	12	5	44	...	14	62	34	4	...				
Rosewood	...	7,573	8	7,565	...	...	...	2	3,678	...	...	174	96	331	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	882	2,295	36	6	...	...	...	...	52	9	...
South Brisbane	...	2,544	88	2,456	...	...	...	...	215	...	...	201	131	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	833	672	117	11	...	...	14	40	72	131	...
Taroom	...	66	...	66	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	...	2	...	...	...	...	3	...	2	...
Tenningering	...	93	8	85	...	...	...	...	25	...	...	4	6	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	26	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...											
Tiaro	...	5,011	165	4,846	...	...	...	1	1,589	...	...	368	18	98	...	1,567	1	...	...	...	...	664	353	10	...	13	12	68	18	61	...	...												
Woodford	...	742	9	733	377	46	30	44	10	77	84	17	5	5	23	15													
Total East	2,152	192,737	8,488	184,249	781	27	245	38	69,578	70	26	8,023	2,305	8,465	...	44,395	398	...	30	24	20,785	20,802	754	103	1,460	750	1,914	1,512	1,764													
West of Main Range.																																														
Adavale	...	10	...	10	2	1	2	...	5													
Allora	3,032	44,048	1,715	42,333	21,378	30	987	184	10,966	57	...	1,026	2,894	4,680	24	13	6	88													
Augathella													
Bollon	...	20	...	20	1	...	1	5	10													
Charleville	...	19	...	19													
Condamine	...	192	...	192	142													
Crow's Nest (part of)	88	2,422	168	2,254	264	9	58	1	1,342	243	...	149	8	21	16													
Cunnamulla	...	275	20	255	29	135	4	2	...	5													
Dalby	453	11,910	491	11,419	6,999	...	500	26	1,954	2	...	104	...	293	225	15													
Diamantina (part of)	592	876	18	2	1	15	37													
Eulo	...	4	...	4													
Goondiwindi	...	383	39	344	1	6	3													
Highfields	582	12,332	184	12,148	3,010	5	664	37	5,616	6	302	9	4	2	5	8													
Hungerford	...	155	97	58	674	...	238	811	932	30	1	21	23	80													
Inglewood	...	1,213	40	1,203	494	3	166	19	...	98	51	6													
Killarney	1,770	11,537	93	11,444	3,515	21	344	14	5,708	142	...	820	75	282	34	2	2	4	24													
																						297	541	5	1	32	34													

Table No. X.—continued.

RETURN showing the TOTAL EXTENT of LAND under CULTIVATION, and the AREA under each DESCRIPTION of CROP, in the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS of the Colony of Queensland, during the Year 1900—continued.

Petty Sessions Districts.	Total Extent of Land under permanent Pasture with Artificially Sown Grasses	Total Extent of Land under Cultivation.	Land in Fallow and Totally Unproductive.	Total Extent of Land under Crop.	GRAIN CROPS.								POTATOES.				COFFEE.				VINES.				Other Crops.	Gardens and Orchards.						
					Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.	Pumpkins.	Cotton.	Sugar-cane.	Arrowroot.	Tobacco.	Bearing.	Not yet Bearing.	Hay (All Kinds).	Green Fodder.	Bearing.	Not yet Bearing.			Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.			
							Maltng.	Other.																								
SOUTHERN.																																
West of Main Range—continued.																																
Mitchell	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	
Roma ... ..	...	1,749	61	1,688	1,256	...	...	...	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	379	10	7	...	...	...	...	...	20	11	56
St. George ... ..	...	9,301	866	8,435	5,442	...	...	...	...	12	1	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,136	154	492	93	...	...	...	...	4	4	21
Southwood ... ..	...	343	1	342	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	299	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Stanthorpe ... ..	...	20	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Surat ... ..	...	842	9	833	78	2	...	...	...	131	...	...	56	...	19	...	...	...	...	...	139	60	17	12	...	...	...	...	...	285	34
Tambo ... ..	...	144	...	144	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	139	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Texas ... ..	...	105	1,279	...	257	...	...	...	...	199	...	...	2	...	57	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Thargomindah ... ..	...	9	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Toowoomba	11,949	49,976	2,740	47,236	18,602	232	2,289	622	8,965	63	...	332	...	1,281	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,544	8,824	136	3	...	...	...	...	33	159	151
Warwick	1,897	40,733	1,495	39,238	14,909	38	1,200	301	12,911	5	...	749	1	1,297	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,372	3,049	79	3	...	...	...	...	3	52	269
Windorah (part of) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Yeulba ... ..	...	2,575	257	2,318	1,805	...	5	...	63	...	...	12	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	332	82	6	4	...	...	...	...	4	...	...
Total West	19,881	191,521	8,276	183,245	78,181	337	6,047	1,192	48,044	81	...	2,418	2	5,294	...	...	...	656	...	...	18,979	19,467	853	120	...	...	...	...	105	606	863
Total S. Division	22,033	384,258	16,764	367,494	78,962	364	6,292	1,230	117,622	151	26	10,441	2,307	13,759	...	44,395	398	656	30	24	39,764	40,269	1,607	223	1,460	750	2,019	2,118	2,627	...	...
CENTRAL.																																
East of Main Range.																																
Banana	27	5	22	7	15
Clermont ... ..	...	489	100	389	13	...	...	...	145	...	...	14	8	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	118	13	3	...	...	...	...	...	8	7	54
Emerald ... ..	...	207	11	196	45	20	10	...	...	...	...	6	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	64	8	2	23	...	...	...	...	3	...	8
Gladstone	4	698	25	673	...	...	...	1	307	...	...	56	11	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	195	34	4	...	3	6	15	10	...	15	
Mackay (Nebo collection) ... ..	...	4	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mount Morgan ... ..	...	77	...	77	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	1	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	4	2	...	...	...	1	1	1	30	
Rockhampton	681	4,977	921	4,056	4	...	...	...	367	...	...	117	63	81	...	908	...	...	...	3	16	1,735	342	70	20	21	24	137	78	70	
St. Lawrence ... ..	...	171	36	135	...	...	...	...	68	...	...	13	6	9	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	8	12	1	...	...	...	...	...	4	12
Springsure ... ..	...	499	...	499	280	...	...	...	16	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	95	89	1	8	...	...	...	...	3	3	2
Total East	685	7,149	1,098	6,051	342	20	10	1	914	...	...	208	93	119	...	908	...	...	5	16	2,236	509	85	51	25	31	169	103	206	...	...
West of Main Range.																																
Alpha ... ..	...	5	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Aramac ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Baraldine	500	185	...	185	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160	3	7	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	5
Blackall	10	74	42	32	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diamantina (part of) ... ..	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Isisford ... ..	...	11	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Longreach ... ..	...	11	3	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muttaburra ... ..	...	30	2	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Windorah (part of) ... ..	...	9	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total West	510	323	50	273	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	167	6	9	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	67
Total C. Division	1,195	7,472	1,148	6,324	342	20	10	1	914	...	...	217	97	123	...	908	...	...	5	16	2,403	515	94	51	25	31	172	107	273	...	...

Table No. X.—continued.

RETURN showing the TOTAL EXTENT of LAND under CULTIVATION, and the AREA under each DESCRIPTION of CROP, in the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS of the Colony of Queensland, during the Year 1900—continued.

Petty Sessions Districts.	Total Extent of Land under permanent Pasture with Artificially Sown Grasses.	Total Extent of Land under Cultivation.	Land in Fallow and Totally Unproductive.	Total Extent of Land under Crop.	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.			COFFEE.					VINES.				Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.	Other Crops.	Gardens and Orchards.					
					Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.	Pumpkins.	Cotton.	Sugar-cane.	Arrowroot.	Tobacco.	Bearing.	Not yet Bearing.	Hay (All Kinds).	Green Fodder.	Bearing.						Not yet Bearing.				
							Malting.	Other.																									
NORTHERN.																																	
East of Coast Range.																																	
Ayr	...	7,225	366	6,859	...	...	...	...	662	...	...	22	171	16	...	5,894	...	...	...	...	...	70	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	14	8	
Bowen	...	3,280	477	2,803	...	...	...	...	405	...	...	21	18	27	...	2,031	...	...	...	...	...	17	...	1	...	...	...	5	1	174	63	38
Cairns	108	15,441	1,260	14,181	...	...	...	...	2,973	...	144	18	95	21	...	7,930	...	8	103	119	5	54	...	...	2,512	90	52	28	29	...		
Cardwell	...	305	50	255	...	...	...	...	14	...	...	...	91	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	37	...	...	...	22	...	72	6	9	...	
Cook	...	490	18	472	...	...	...	...	168	...	23	1	71	12	...	...	...	...	26	...	...	5	...	...	...	36	11	53	32	34	...	
Douglas	...	3,899	70	3,829	...	...	...	...	186	...	53	5	44	5	...	3,360	...	...	18	...	...	8	...	...	...	9	6	111	9	3	...	
Ingham	...	167	13,535	1,476	12,059	...	...	...	345	...	...	1	177	1	...	11,389	...	...	18	...	...	76	...	...	...	6	1	4	22	37	...	
Mackay (less Nebo collection)	39	28,186	572	27,614	...	1	...	...	550	...	5	105	246	41	...	26,094	1	...	...	49	95	232	...	4	2	24	10	20	37	80	...	
Mareeba	...	26	284	24	260	...	...	...	144	...	...	5	14	6	...	...	...	...	34	18	...	9	...	...	...	5	...	5	5	15	...	
Mourilyan	...	116	9,655	458	9,197	...	...	...	315	...	20	2	76	4	...	6,534	2	...	49	15	...	83	...	...	1,989	18	32	48	10	...		
Somerset	731	...	731	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	92	7	13	515	32	...		
Townsville	394	...	389	...	...	...	8	...	...	105	28	89	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	...	4	...	8	3	16	66	48	...		
Total East	...	462	83,425	4,776	78,649	...	1	...	...	5,770	...	245	285	1,084	241	...	63,232	3	9	248	209	106	608	...	9	2	4,710	147	552	845	343	...
West of Coast Range.																																	
Boulia	5	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	
Burke	10	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	
Camooowal	6	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	
Cape River	61	...	61	...	...	...	5	...	...	4	7	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	5	...	...	...	13	7	5	...	
Charters Towers	115	...	115	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	2	54	...	
Cloneuray	23	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	8	3	...	
Croydon	163	...	139	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	5	15	8	79	...	
Etheridge	417	...	360	2	8	12	2	3	1	7	6	49	...
Herberton	...	1,207	3,741	133	3,608	3,131	69	42	48	5	220	2	48	...
Hughenden	209	...	141	33	18	4	12	18	...	7	2	1	16	...
Norman	45	...	45	19	2	2	3	5	2	5	8	27	...
Palmer	149	...	148	65	3	26	3	4	1	4	6	25	...
Ravenswood	49	...	49	1	5	6	2	1	2
Thornborough	184	...	184	144	9	11	3
Winton	40	...	40	3	1	7	4	4	17
Total West	...	1,208	5,217	287	4,930	...	...	...	3,668	...	...	117	126	109	...	...	...	...	...	5	224	53	24	9	20	11	139	81	...	344	...	...
Total N. Division	...	1,670	88,642	5,063	83,579	...	1	...	9,438	...	245	402	1,210	350	...	63,232	3	9	248	214	330	661	33	11	4,730	158	691	926	687	...	...	...
Grand Total 1900	...	24,898	480,372	22,975	457,397	79,804	385	6,302	1,231	127,974	151	271	11,060	3,614	14,232	...	108,535	401	665	283	254	42,497	41,445	1,734	285	6,215	939	2,882	3,151	3,587	...	...
" 1899	...	19,204	455,645	34,899	420,746	52,527	714	6,011	1,463	110,489	198	319	10,766	3,919	10,167	...	110,657	431	745	272	223	58,939	35,514	1,746	257	5,802	994	2,324	2,508	...	...	...
Increase in 1900	...	5,694	24,727	...	36,651	26,777	...	291	...	17,485	...	...	294	...	4,065	...	...	...	...	11	31	...	5,931	...	12	...	413	...	558	643	...	...
Decrease in 1900	11,924	...	...	329	...	232	...	47	48	...	305	...	...	2,122	30	80	...	...	16,442	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Table No. XI.

RETURN showing the GROSS PRODUCE of PRINCIPAL CROPS Raised in the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS of the Colony of Queensland during the Year ended 31st December, 1900.

PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	QUANTITY OF PRODUCE.																				
	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.		Pumpkins.	Cotton.	SUGAR-CANE.		Arrowroot.	Tobacco (Cured Leaf).	Coffee.	Hay (All Kinds).	VINES.	Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.			Sugar- Cane Crushed. *	Sugar. *					Grapes Gathered.			
			Malting.	Other.																	
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Acres.	Tons.	Tons.	Cwt.	Lb.	Tons.	Lb.	Bunches.	Dozens.	Dozens.
SOUTHERN.																					
<i>East of Main Range.</i>																					
Beaudesert	...	...	...	...	71,689	...	...	591	474	1,229	...	...	...	4	...	...	1,515	2,200	...	...	9,980
Biggenden	15	...	...	...	11,062	...	...	87	70	55	...	...	...	...	...	...	178	9,330	5,000	...	190
Brisbane	...	...	...	...	16,594	12	...	1,095	1,764	744	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,922	404,748	254,869	262,758	91,930
Bundaberg	...	...	...	...	64,937	...	...	217	271	246	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,975	47,330	5,800	1,220	13,870
Caboolture	20	...	...	...	15,070	...	...	359	298	125	...	...	...	12	...	...	104	4,580	...	1,340	19,170
Childers	...	48	...	...	15,881	60	...	162	260	83	...	...	...	...	...	...	849	7,266	2,360	2,412	21,800
Cleveland	...	...	...	...	753	...	...	33	160	51	...	...	...	...	...	...	55	41,880	110,246	21,469	72,606
Crow's Nest (part of)	3,373	...	1,566	148	81,156	...	...	974	5	1,573	...	...	...	6	...	...	119	7,392	...	...	262
Dugandan	147	...	92	168	133,893	31	...	299	50	4,802	...	...	...	4	...	...	1,322	60,929	6,900	80	2,200
Eidsvold	...	...	...	...	3,034	...	...	11	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	144	10,080	...	...	1,400
Esk	40	4	...	...	52,079	40	...	306	439	1,538	...	...	...	4	...	...	591	17,450	...	...	9,180
Gatton	1,100	300	1,636	87	130,448	361	...	3,859	345	6,382	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,370	217,500	...	1,920	106,276
Gayndah	194	40	...	87	4,015	20	...	32	93	57	...	...	...	...	...	...	138	4,240	...	...	11,210
Gin Gin	20	...	...	...	24,345	...	...	127	432	92	...	...	...	...	...	...	330	9,240	200	...	9,840
Goodna	...	...	...	...	8,151	...	...	47	12	132	...	...	...	...	...	...	155	24,000	...	...	1,050
Gympie	20	...	...	20	33,944	32	...	435	171	460	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,042	58,470	280	146	33,970
Harrisville	40	...	330	120	73,315	38	...	115	473	2,211	...	...	...	4	...	336	3,805	14,400	...	...	3,803
Ipswich	...	...	...	...	24,248	...	...	499	155	294	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,040	19,800	90	150	9,032
Laidley	510	...	824	...	170,957	69	...	987	549	2,274	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,283	113,535	...	...	2,750
Logan	20	...	...	...	39,995	14	327	989	1,408	200	...	...	...	1,475	...	...	664	110,746	57,533	21,345	41,373
Marburg	...	...	...	...	94,908	...	...	301	549	1,306	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,007	144,430	665	370	62,600
Maroochy	...	100	...	...	19,218	...	...	158	166	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	539	15,956	473,875	24,746	234,763
Maryborough	...	...	...	...	7,394	...	...	376	507	100	...	...	...	12	...	5,748	1,528	96,043	33,374	11,230	212,522
Nanango	9,575	57	260	51	34,329	...	...	68	35	420	...	...	...	...	1,150	...	448	4,610	...	...	3,000
Nerang	50	...	...	...	70,735	60	...	734	240	198	...	...	...	...	...	...	489	65,240	450	...	167,758
Redcliffe	...	30	...	...	76,342	...	...	1,301	621	172	...	...	...	2,783	...	...	1,480	35,590	8,200	5,802	27,691
Rosewood	...	...	...	30	70,139	...	...	313	357	1,898	...	...	...	8	...	...	2,036	159,420	...	...	...
South Brisbane	...	...	...	...	5,202	...	...	356	880	79	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,202	341,271	...	9,033	27,720
Taroom	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	93	600	...	...	60
Tenningering	...	...	...	...	530	...	...	6	26	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	4,780	...	...	3,350
Tiaro	...	...	...	30	34,566	...	...	648	54	294	...	...	...	2	...	...	1,693	28,352	3,224	2,963	32,790
Woodford	...	...	...	...	10,097	...	...	103	241	162	...	...	...	73	...	...	172	89,180	...	...	2,293
Total East	15,127	579	4,708	741	1,399,026	737	327	15,595	11,118	27,209	...	29,631	23,298	4,387	...	7,234	55,315	2,168,558	963,066	366,984	1,236,439
<i>West of Main Range.</i>																					
Adavale	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,600	...	...	1,500
Allora	317,770	524	18,348	1,966	109,414	...	...	65	...	2,012	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,525	17,154	...	...	3,440
Angathella	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bolton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Charleville	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...
Condamine	1,983	...	...	...	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,400	...	...	...
Crow's Nest (part of)	4,494	216	972	40	31,878	...	...	418	...	626	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	4,580	...	...	...
Cunnamulla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	13,448	...	...	2,000
Dalby	102,581	...	5,526	695	28,285	50	...	157	...	574	...	...	...	...	...	...	675	...	...	...	...
Diamantina	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	594	20,134	...	...	140
Eulo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Goondiwindi	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Highfields	52,579	80	13,921	782	93,156	120	...	...	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	424	4,500	...	...	500
Hungerford	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	804	...	941	...	...	...	...	...	...	963	96,484	...	...	25,000
Inglewood	7,504	...	...	84	5,800	...	...	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39	...	...	...	...
Killarney	59,829	179	6,860	260	156,710	...	...	233	...	147	...	...	...	...	661	...	476	2,232	...	...	430
Mitchell	14,072	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	2,474	...	...	...	...	...	...	501	26,550	...	...	1,296
																	263	10,760	...	...	...

*Details of individual districts not available—Vide Table N in body of Report.

Table No. XI.—continued.

RETURN showing the GROSS PRODUCE of PRINCIPAL CROPS Raised in the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS of the Colony of Queensland during the Year ended 31st December, 1900—continued.

PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	QUANTITY OF PRODUCE.																				
	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.		Pumpkins.	Cotton.	SUGAR-CANE.		Arrowroot.	Tobacco (Cured Leaf).	Coffee.	Hay (All Kinds).	VINES.	Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.			Sugar-Cane Crushed. *	Sugar. *					Grapes Gathered.			
			Malting.	Other.																		Lb.
SOUTHERN. West of Main Range—continued.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Acres.	Tons.	Tons.	Cwt.	Lb.	Tons.	Lb.	Bunches.	Dozens.	Dozens.
Roma	39,809	...	...	10	10	12	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,783	263,416	...	...	4,510
St. George ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	273	10,280	...	...	7,900
Southwood ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Stanthorpe	854	25	...	...	1,550	...	...	115	...	69	...	...	...	...	...	...	156	15,878	...	...	...
Surat ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	208	300	...	...	...
Tambo ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Texas	3,161	...	...	...	1,446	...	...	1	...	98	...	...	...	...	3,346	...	250	...	...	...	...
Thargomindah ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,500	...	...	600
Toowoomba	300,860	5,236	37,915	11,663	103,178	903	...	413	...	3,164	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,164	517,765	...	...	196,460
Warwick	254,394	686	19,521	2,953	241,831	74	...	898	2	4,807	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,035	142,130	...	...	2,380
Windsor (part of) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Yeulba	16,250	...	27	...	268	...	...	7	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	342	6,280	...	...	...
Total West	1,175,945	6,946	103,090	18,473	773,586	1,191	...	3,167	4	14,951	...	...	...	...	4,007	...	19,720	1,165,391	...	...	246,156
Total S. Div.	1,191,072	7,525	107,798	19,214	2,172,612	1,928	327	18,762	11,122	42,160	...	29,631	23,298	4,387	4,007	7,234	75,035	3,333,949	963,066	366,984	1,482,595
CENTRAL. East of Main Range.																					
Banana	53	...	...	...	74	...	...	10	12	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	42	2,470	...	...	2,690
Clermont	350	320	112	...	...	...	...	7	2	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	59	1,500	5,070	...	...
Emerald ... ..	...	...	...	20	8,226	...	...	130	57	70	...	...	...	...	...	...	354	5,624	762	1,672	13,400
Gladstone ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,000	...	...	27,000
Mackay (Nebo collection) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mount Morgan ... ..	...	...	...	...	161	...	...	5	10	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	2,020	...	200	200
Rockhampton	95	...	...	...	7,265	...	...	178	282	185	...	...	...	...	...	1,800	2,147	216,526	1,770	3,506	54,415
St. Lawrence ... ..	...	...	...	...	980	...	...	13	11	25	...	...	...	...	...	504	9	3,136	...	...	...
Springsure	2,518	...	...	...	20	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160	200	...	...	136
Total East	3,016	320	112	20	16,726	...	...	345	376	311	...	478	477	...	...	2,304	2,793	236,476	7,602	5,378	97,841
West of Main Range.																					
Alpha ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Aramac ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Barcaldine ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	263	18,650	...	...	1,300
Blackall ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diamantina (part of) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Isisford ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,020	...	...	...
Longreach ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mt. Taburra ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	4	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	1,620	...	...	1,600
Windsor (part of) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total West ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	9	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	284	23,290	...	...	2,900
Total Central Division	3,016	320	112	20	16,726	...	...	363	385	318	...	478	477	...	...	2,30	3,077	259,766	7,602	5,378	100,741

* Details of individual districts not available—Vide Table N in body of Report.

Table No. XI.—continued.

RETURN showing the GROSS PRODUCE of PRINCIPAL CROPS Raised in the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS of the Colony of Queensland during the Year ended 31st December, 1900—continued.

PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	QUANTITY OF PRODUCE.																					
	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.		Pumpkins.	Cotton.	SUGAR-CANE.		Arrowroot.	Tobacco (Cured Leaf).	Coffee.	Hay (All Kinds.)	VINES.	Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.	
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.			Sugar- Cane Crushed. *	Sugar. *					Grapes Gathered.				
			Malting.	Other.																		Bunches.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Acres.	Tons.	Tons.	Cwt.	Lb.	Tons.	Lb.	Bunches.	Dozens.	Dozens.	
NORTHERN.																						
East of Coast Range.																						
Ayr	15,885	...	...	50	1,048	102	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	220	...	...
Bowen	7,950	...	...	43	67	59	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	900	1,908	134	86,552	
Cairns	120,005	...	3,756	44	682	130	...	...	...	...	15	56,914	6	...	752,032	28,831	46,200	
Cardwell	186	...	...	...	660	37	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	5,505	...	58,860	
Cook	3,964	...	415	6	262	24	...	...	...	...	...	5,244	...	...	29,195	2,464	36,384	
Douglas	7,154	...	2,080	12	259	40	...	...	...	...	...	4,632	12	...	5,150	2,210	80,732	
Ingham	9,125	...	...	2	1,496	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,872	80	2,165	
Mackay (less Nebo collection)	...	10	...	...	13,570	...	25	257	1,314	142	...	...	...	2	...	3,290	250	8,900	13,400	1,418	18,960
Mareeba	3,671	...	...	9	55	26	...	...	...	...	...	12,996	...	...	1,530	...	820	
Mourilyan	12,317	...	267	3	398	26	...	...	...	30	...	9,520	...	...	524,115	12,528	31,240	
Somersel	51	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,566	165	1,000	
Townsville	320	...	...	301	87	251	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,700	1,590	440	
Total East	10	...	...	194,147	...	6,543	727	6,359	880	...	42,542	68,779	32	25	92,596	271	14,500	1,345,083	48,268	369,301	
West of Range.																						
Boulia	
Burke	
Camooowal	
Cape River	106	...	...	10	15	26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,080	...	...	15,910	
Charters Towers	2,500	...	...	37,650	
Cloncurry	5	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	320	...	...	770	
Croydon	3	...	...	...	16	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,100	3,760	1,500	
Etheridge	1,868	...	...	7	26	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	294	43	2,285	
Herberton	64,835	...	...	79	166	253	...	...	...	...	...	...	358	3,714	990	60	17,536	
Hughenden	1,240	...	...	25	5	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,570	...	...	6,440	
Norman	280	...	...	2	2	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	130	...	100	
Palmer	2,238	...	...	3	46	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,183	152	2,690	
Ravenswood	2	11	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	250	
Thornborough	2,564	...	...	23	39	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	660	140	1,750	
Winton	6	2	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	3,550	...	...	1,550	
Total West	73,162	...	...	162	334	382	...	...	...	...	...	...	375	26,734	5,357	4,205	88,431	
Total Northern Division	...	10	...	...	267,309	...	6,543	889	6,693	1,262	...	42,542	68,779	32	25	92,596	646	41,234	1,350,440	52,473	457,732
Grand Total, 1900	1,194,088	7,855	107,910	19,234	2,456,647	1,928	6,870	20,014	18,200	43,740	...	72,651	92,554	4,419	4,032	102,134	78,758	3,634,949	2,321,108	424,835	2,041,068	
„ „ 1899	614,414	10,712	100,027	18,416	1,965,598	2,391	9,275	22,675	19,899	38,040	...	79,435	123,289	4,669	6,551	104,981	103,409	3,230,627	3,630,173	401,692	1,420,839	
Increases in 1900	579,674	...	7,883	818	491,049	...	...	...	...	5,700	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	404,322	...	23,143	620,229
Decreases in 1900	...	2,857	...	...	...	463	2,405	2,661	1,699	...	...	6,784	30,735	250	2,519	2,847	24,651	...	1,309,065	...	...

* Details of individual districts not available—Vide Table N in body of Report

Table No. XII.

SHOWING the TOTAL EXTENT of LAND under CULTIVATION, and the AREA under each DESCRIPTION of CROP in the Colony of Queensland—RETURN for TEN YEARS.

Year.	Total Extent of Land under Cultivation.	Land in Fallow.	Total Extent of Land under Crop.	AREA UNDER EACH DESCRIPTION OF CROP.																															
				GRAIN CROPS.									POTATOES.		HAY CROPS.										Lucerne and Other Green Forage.	VINES.			Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.	Other Crops.	Gardens and Orchards.		
				Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.	Cotton.	Sugar-Cane.	Arrowroot.	Tobacco.	Coffee.	Pumpkins.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Rye.	Lucerne.	Panicum.		Other.	For Wine-making.	For Table Use.						Not yet Bearing.	
						Malt-ing.	Other.																												
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1891	258,004	15,375	242,629	19,306	715	...	739	101,598	538	457	9,173	2,805	90	50,948	237	790	...	...	1,082	10,212	224	...	17,678	1,287	172	10,760	681	1,022	285	3,897	1,138	1,423	2,072	3,300
1892	260,828	13,097	247,731	31,742	591	...	385	92,172	360	1,113	8,493	2,964	717	55,520	222	318	...	...	1,423	9,065	129	464	13,249	1,240	95	14,690	858	880	170	3,059	1,035	1,724	1,694	3,359
1893	252,075	8,826	243,249	28,993	606	...	495	93,556	496	789	8,306	2,997	191	59,251	192	475	...	...	2,417	9,943	236	313	8,443	1,025	128	13,336	645	975	380	2,423	803	1,630	1,320	2,885
1894	284,552	9,570	274,982	28,997	1,477	...	1,418	103,671	283	650	10,523	2,775	100	71,818	282	915	...	...	4,643	10,993	195	319	10,228	1,490	160	12,029	605	1,062	320	3,075	819	1,672	1,434	3,029
1895	299,278	13,959	285,319	27,090	922	...	721	100,481	202	716	9,240	2,736	494	77,247	194	1,061	60	...	1,344	9,763	221	410	14,315	2,411	145	19,552	...	1,782*	239	3,916	847	1,900	4,121	3,189	
1896	336,775	14,007	322,678	35,831	1,881	...	1,122	115,715	345	600	7,672	3,131	280	83,093	309	994	138	...	1,845	11,565	282	427	17,892	3,673	80	19,509	...	1,842	178	4,477	823	1,791	3,875	3,308	
1897	386,259	14,402	371,857	59,875	1,834	...	2,077	109,721	470	445	8,197	3,581	48	98,641	391	755	311	...	5,898	14,002	291	702	23,362	3,791	174	19,903	...	1,881	286	4,828	909	2,196	3,410	3,878	
1898	409,287	46,033	363,254	46,219	271	...	1,953	991	102,835	299	863	7,961	1	111,012	455	617	432	...	2,664	9,358	152	483	20,095	2,411	100	26,980	...	1,727	293	5,264	1,130	2,272	1,615	3,501	
1899	455,645	34,899	420,746	52,527	714	...	6,011	1,463	110,489	198	319	10,766	...	110,657	431	745	495	...	26,047	10,997	620	486	19,091	1,628	70	35,514	...	1,746	257	5,802	994	2,324	2,514	3,761	
1900	480,372	22,975	457,397	79,304	335	...	6,302	127,974	151	271	11,060	3,614	...	108,535	401	665	537	...	8,019	11,452	461	594	20,843	1,095	33	41,445	...	1,734	285	6,215	...	2,882	3,151	3,587	

a Not specially returned prior to 1898.

* These can no longer be kept separate.

Table No. XIII.

SHOWING the GROSS PRODUCE of PRINCIPAL CROPS Raised in the Colony of Queensland—RETURN for TEN YEARS.

Year.	QUANTITY OF PRODUCE.																																	
	GRAIN CROPS.							English Potatoes.	Sweet Potatoes.	Cotton.	SUGAR-CANE.		Arrowroot (Commercial).	Tobacco (Cured Leaf.	Coffee.	Pumpkins.	HAY.						VINES.					Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.				
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.				Sugar-Cane Crushed	Sugar.					Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Rye.	Sown Grasses.			Wine Made.	Grapes for Table Use.									
			Malt- ing.	Other.																	Lucerne.	Pani- cum.	Other Sown Grasses.											
Bshls.	Bshls.	Bshls.	Bshls.	Bshls.	Bshls.	Bshls.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Acres.	Tons.	Lb.	Cwt.	Lb.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Gallons.	Lb.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.						
1891	392,309	16,669	...	21,302	3,077,915	12,434	21,461	25,018	15,657	48,746	36,821	51,219	682,252	7,704	...	...	...	1,783	18,832	672	...	34,552	2,659	344	168,526	2,619,337	11,644,769	543,415	1,090,804		
1892	462,583	12,965	...	6,969	2,333,553	8,001	33,380	20,498	16,168	212,370	40,572	61,368	576,738	3,808	...	...	...	2,177	16,844	225	867	31,147	2,465	154	193,327	2,267,087	14,277,663	653,803	1,689,466		
1893	413,094	12,095	...	8,396	1,824,108	9,479	32,043	17,165	12,640	29,353	43,670	76,146	448,737	4,577	...	...	...	2,820	17,831	452	497	18,734	1,715	304	101,528	2,081,854	10,591,306	343,773	2,663,211		
1894	545,185	30,463	...	37,824	2,684,925	5,251	24,866	28,185	14,203	754,801	49,839	91,712	534,687	9,571	...	...	...	6,362	20,300	336	617	25,236	2,615	230	176,497	3,160,580	8,928,025	686,135	2,048,919		
													(Tubers.)															Total Wine made from a grade of the Grapes returned in the adjoining column.	All Grapes gathered.					
													Tons.															Gallons.	Lb.					
1895	123,630	10,887	...	7,756	2,391,378	4,169	19,245	19,027	14,233	726,110	55,771	86,255	1,289	7,511	14,060	...	...	1,344	12,498	372	944	30,835	4,662	226	238,208	4,254,795	14,860,386	376,875	1,995,872			
1896	601,254	32,181	...	19,340	3,065,333	7,449	20,528	18,451	14,322	714,032	66,640	100,774	2,603	8,629	9,707	...	...	1,689	17,836	501	717	41,799	7,017	136	170,733	5,122,531	17,059,124	313,835	1,349,990			
1897	1,009,293	31,496	...	49,840	2,803,172	8,329	12,990	18,520	17,466	719,977	65,432	97,916	2,888	5,703	81,614	...	...	7,820	24,719	548	1,391	52,827	6,749	285	207,945	4,822,991	16,494,604	351,524	1,628,176			
1898	607,012	4,047	*26,917	7,948	2,252,481	3,874	33,133	16,413	20,069	750	82,391	163,734	6,116	3,276	56,552	23,370	2,424	16,159	249	871	46,213	4,108	211	134,334	4,116,218	46,547,090	462,752	1,527,469						
1899	614,414	10,712	100,027	18,416	1,965,598	2,391	9,275	22,675	19,899	...	79,435	123,289	4,669	6,551	104,981	38,040	33,891	22,212	742	919	42,594	2,836	215	131,045	3,230,627	36,301,735	401,692	1,420,539						
1900	1,194,088	7,855	107,910	19,234	2,456,647	1,928	6,870	20,014	18,200	...	72,651	92,554	4,419	4,032	102,134	43,740	9,337	20,052	681	1,093	45,606	1,912	77	132,489	3,634,949	2,321,108	424,835	2,041,068						

* Not specially returned in previous years.

† Unginned.

AVERAGE PRODUCE PER ACRE OF PRINCIPAL CROPS IN THE COLONY OF QUEENSLAND—RETURN FOR TEN YEARS.

Table No. XIV.

Year.	Wheat Grain.	Oats Grain.	BARLEY.		Maize.	Rye Grain.	Rice.	English Potatoes.	Sweet Potatoes.	Cotton.	Sugar (on Acres Crushed).	Arrowroot (Commercial).	Tobacco (Cured Leaf).	COFFEE.	Pumpkins.	Wheat (Hay).	Oats (Hay).	Barley (Hay).	Rye (Hay).	SOWN GRASSES.			Wine.	Grapes for Table Use.	Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.	
			On Productive Area.	Lucerne (Hay).										Panicum (Hay).						Other Sown Grasses (Hay).								
1891 ...	Bushels. 20·32	Bushels. 23·31	Bushels. ...	Bushels. 28·83	Bushels. 30·30	Bushels. 23·11	Bushels. 46·96	Tons. 2·73	Tons. 5·58	Lb. *542	Tons. 1·39	Lb. 2,879	Cwt. 9·75	Lb. ...	Tons. ...	Tons. 1·65	Tons. 1·85	Tons. 3·00	Tons. ...	Tons. 1·96	Tons. 2·07	Tons. 2·00	Gallons. 247·47	Lb. 2,562	Doz. 2,988	Doz. 478	Doz. 767	
1892 ...	14·57	21·94	...	18·10	25·32	22·23	29·99	2·41	5·45	*296	1·51	2,598	11·97	...	...	1·53	1·86	1·74	1·87	2·35	1·99	1·62	225·32	2,576	4,667	641	980
1893 ...	14·25	19·96	...	16·96	19·50	19·11	40·61	2·07	4·22	*154	1·74	2,337	9·64	...	...	1·17	1·79	1·92	1·59	2·22	1·67	2·38	157·41	2,135	4,371	428	1,634
1894 ...	18·80	20·62	...	26·67	25·90	18·55	38·26	2·68	5·12	†548	1·84	1,896	10·46	...	...	1·37	1·85	1·72	1·93	2·47	1·76	1·44	291·73	2,976	2,903	838	1,225
													(Tubers.)													‡ Grapes.		
													Tons													Lb.		
1895 ...	4·56	11·81	...	10·76	23·80	20·64	26·88	2·06	5·20	†545	1·55	6·65	7·08	\$234	...	1·06	1·28	1·68	2·30	2·15	1·93	1·56	2,387		3,795	445	1,050	
1896 ...	16·78	17·10	...	17·24	26·49	21·59	34·21	2·40	4·57	†504	1·51	8·42	8·68	373	...	0·92	1·54	1·78	1·68	2·34	1·91	1·70	2,780		3,810	381	753	
1897 ...	16·86	17·17	...	24·00	25·55	17·72	29·19	2·26	4·88	†416	1·50	7·39	7·55	453	...	1·33	1·77	1·88	1·98	2·26	1·78	1·64	2,564		3,416	387	741	
1898 ...	13·13	14·93	13·78	8·02	21·90	12·96	44·19	2·06	5·43	†50	1·99	13·44	5·31	284	3·07	0·91	1·73	1·64	1·80	2·30	1·70	2·11	2,383		8,843	410	672	
1899 ...	11·70	15·00	16·64	12·59	17·79	12·08	29·08	2·11	5·08	...	1·55	10·83	8·79	470	3·74	1·30	2·02	1·20	1·89	2·23	1·74	3·07	1,850		6,257	404	611	
1900 ...	15·06	20·40	17·12	15·62	19·20	12·77	25·35	1·81	5·04	...	1·28	11·02	6·06	361	3·07	1·16	1·75	1·48	1·84	2·19	1·75	2·33	2,096		Bunches. 373	452	998	

* Ginned.

† Unginned.

‡ The manufacture of wine by the purchasers of the grapes and not the growers has now attained such proportions that the returns can no longer be kept distinct.

§ On total area.

OTHER CROPS.

Table No. XV.

SHOWING the PRODUCE Obtained in the Colony during the Year 1900 from "OTHER CROPS," details of which are not included in the GENERAL TABLE.

LOCALITY.	OTHER FRUITS.																	OTHER VEGETABLES.												OTHER MISCELLANEOUS CROPS.															
	Apples.	Apricots.	Cherries.	Cocoanuts.	Custard Apples.	Gooseberries (Cape).	Lemons.	Mangoes.	Passion Fruit.	Peaches.	Pea Nuts.	Pears.	Persimmons.	Plums.	Quinces.	Strawberries.	Rhubarb.	Egg Fruit.	Papaw.	Beans.	Cabbages.	Carrots.	Cauliflowers.	Cucumbers.	Marrows.	Onions.	Peas.	Tomatoes.	Turnips.	Parsnips.	Asparagus.	Sisal Hemp.	Kafir Corn.	Broom Millet.	Broom Millet Seed.	Canary Seed.	Cassava, Manioc, or Tapioca.	Chicory.	Cow Pea.	Mangel-Wurzel.	Rosellas.	Sugar-Beet.	Sunflower Seed.	Prairie Grass Seed.	
South—	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
East of Main Range	22	15	68	6	118	16	20	1	1	14	45	2	117	1	29	292	1	7	142	7	100	26	124	166	1	54	2	16	13	82	3	1	
West of Main Range	209	41	2	8	...	43	2	2	2	104	1	3	4	1	43	2	13	14	1	1	50	...	2	10	3	5	10	
Central—	
East of Main Range	3	13	12	5	63	...	1	...	1	18	1	...	4	4	5	3	
West of Main Range	2	1	...	1	
Northern—	
East of Main Range	504	8	217	...	2	3	2	...	1	4	1	64	7	...	1	...	24	4	1	2	
West of Main Range	4	7	13	...	1	5	35	3	...	3	...	3	...	3	4	
Total Area	...	238	13	12	504	15	68	26	411	16	65	11	10	14	88	4	121	1	1	4	32	515	6	10	160	8	148	32	170	191	1	1	1	1	104	2	2	2	16	23	85	3	1	5	10
South—	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Dozens.	Bushels.	Quarts.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Lb.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Quarts.	Bunches.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Bushels.	Dozens.	Cwt.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Tons.	Cwt.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Cwt.	Bunches.	Lb.	Bushels.	Lb.	Lb.	Tons.	Tons.	Bushels.	Tons.	Bushels.	Tons.	Lb.	Bushels.		
East of Main Range	550	221	76,710	5,334	72,091	3,463	1,962	2,240	2	428	3,395	33	399,493	2,080	3,521	158,230	60	1,060	64,109	84	4,076	2,841	12,663	1,654	40	40,040	3,920	*	183	790	500	7	
West of Main Range	4,761	171	119	6,855	1,706	6,720	115	...	1,173	208	212	214	52,707	85	775	930	1	1,747	62	2,553	64	100	500	724	
Central—	13,553	...	40	9,466	55	...	3,540	56	118	10	
East of Main Range	2,950	53	...	9	
West of Main Range	
Northern—	
East of Main Range	8,333	17,316	182,740	...	75	7,840	1,400	...	150	1,256	3	20,051	1,940	...	20	...	3,513	7	425	2	
West of Main Range	5	1,870	9,060	...	680	3,416	11,632	57	...	1,280	...	55	...	94	25	
Total Produce	...	5,316	171	119	8,333	221	76,710	31,375	277,444	3,463	4,463	20,216	117	428	4,568	241	401,105	2,080	150	1,256	3,738	255,036	257	1,835	71,799	85	5,951	2,959	18,950	1,760	100	500	425	40	51,240	3,920	724	2	*	327	821	500	7	4,480	500

* Information not furnished.

Table No. XVI.

RETURN showing the TOTAL EXTENT of LAND CULTIVATED for GREEN CROPS in each of the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS of the Colony of Queensland, during the Year 1900.

PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	GREEN CROPS.										
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Rye.	Maize.	Sugar-Cane.	Sorghum.	Lucerne.	Panicum.	Other.	Total all Kinds.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
SOUTHERN.											
<i>East of Main Range.</i>											
Beaudesert	38	251	27	1	50	...	42	163	6	...	578
Biggenden	3	17	6	1	67	...	2	...	2	...	98
Brisbane	16	454	64	15	396	1	209	163	53	3	1,368
Bundaberg ... ..	...	93	7	...	126	286	19	72	37	...	640
Caboolture	10	64	11	1	39	2	25	8	2	...	162
Childers	2	23	8	1	100	163	5	10	...	...	312
Cleveland	1	22	2	...	17	9	14	...	1	1	67
Crow's Nest (part of)	23	11	51	7	...	1	23	56	...	...	172
Dugandan	179	134	245	109	525	...	202	345	43	...	1,782
Eidsvold ... ..	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Esk	128	172	180	15	325	1	3	129	9	65	1,027
Gatton	386	184	326	110	430	...	233	409	91	36	2,205
Gayndah	14	5	5	2	26	...	...	12	...	...	64
Gin Gin	1	15	12	1	242	13	1	15	...	...	300
Goodna	12	30	20	1	27	...	25	29	1	1	146
Gympie	7	208	40	1	93	27	57	28	4	13	478
Harrisville	138	139	183	26	114	8	181	596	32	...	1,417
Ipswich	106	271	106	13	154	...	57	326	38	...	1,071
Laidley	254	76	80	77	86	6	113	265	49	1	987
Logan	10	217	8	4	96	18	42	75	25	1	496
Marburg	377	323	169	123	252	109	400	240	22	...	2,015
Maroochy	2	52	3	10	54	120	2	12	...	1	256
Maryborough	12	198	7	2	187	117	6	33	6	...	568
Nanango	28	8	22	11	31	...	1	28	...	...	129
Nerang	4	100	40	8	39	18	29	36	8	5	287
Redcliffe	6	350	49	2	168	17	48	84	13	3	740
Rosewood	55	595	77	46	141	8	554	755	64	...	2,295
South Brisbane ... ..	...	240	10	1	153	3	51	146	68	...	672
Taroom ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tenningering ... ..	...	3	2	2	15	...	...	4	...	...	26
Tiaro	19	118	22	4	126	43	2	24	...	...	358
Woodford	2	39	6	...	20	...	11	1	...	5	84
Total East	1,807	4,414	1,788	594	4,099	970	2,357	4,064	574	135	20,802
<i>West of Main Range.</i>											
Adavale ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Allora	995	133	737	8	769	...	...	2,032	2	4	4,680
Augathella ... ..	...	...	...	...	7	...	3	...	...	...	10
Bollon ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Charleville ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Condamine ... ..	...	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Crow's Nest (part of)	18	4	47	3	6	...	8	47	2	...	135
Cunnamulla ... ..	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	15
Dalby	46	10	354	2	96	...	31	315	17	5	876
Diamantina (part of) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Eulo ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Goondiwindi ... ..	...	...	1	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	9
Highfields	78	56	148	40	145	...	45	418	2	...	932
Hungerford ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	6
Inglewood	14	...	10	1	...	...	3	6	...	...	34
Killarney	232	17	42	...	69	...	...	181	...	...	541
Mitchell	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Roma	77	5	11	...	59	...	2	...	...	...	154
St. George ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Southwood	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Stanthorpe	31	10	2	3	...	...	2	12	...	...	60
Surat ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tambo ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Texas ... ..	...	...	2	...	...	...	4	3	...	...	9
Thargomindah ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Toowoomba	816	546	2,967	166	720	...	342	3,203	39	25	8,824
Warwick	366	17	960	2	328	...	10	1,348	...	18	3,049
Windorah (part of) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Yeulba	22	...	14	3	17	...	19	3	4	...	82
Total West	2,725	831	5,295	228	2,216	...	483	7,568	66	55	19,467
Total Southern Division	4,532	5,245	7,083	822	6,315	970	2,840	11,632	640	190	40,269
CENTRAL.											
<i>East of Main Range.</i>											
Banana ... ..	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	7
Clermont	9	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	13
Emerald ... ..	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	5	...	...	8
Gladstone ... ..	...	4	1	...	10	...	5	10	2	2	34
Mackay (Nebo collection) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mount Morgan ... ..	...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	4
Rockhampton ... ..	...	17	36	3	85	3	135	57	6	...	342
St. Lawrence ... ..	...	...	...	...	3	...	2	7	...	...	12
Springure	2	...	...	...	81	...	...	6	...	...	89
Total East	11	33	37	3	180	3	144	87	9	2	509

Table No. XVI.—*continued*.

RETURN showing the TOTAL EXTENT of LAND CULTIVATED for GREEN CROPS in each of the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS of the Colony of Queensland, during the year 1900—*continued*.

PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	GREEN CROPS.										
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Rye.	Maize.	Sugar- Cane	Sorghum.	Lucerne.	Panicum.	Other.	Total all Kinds.
	Aeres.	Aeres.	Aeres.	Aeres.	Aeres.	Aeres.	Aeres.	Aeres.	Aeres.	Aeres.	Aeres.
<i>West of Main Range.</i>											
Alpha
Aramac
Barcaldine	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	3
Blackall
Diamantina (part of)
Isisford
Longreach
Muttaburra	2	...	1	...	...	...	3
Windsorah (part of)
Total West	2	...	...	2	...	1	1	...	...	6
Total Central Division	11	35	37	3	182	3	145	88	9	2	515
<i>NORTHERN. East of Range.</i>											
Ayr	70	...	...	...	70
Bowen	14	2	1	...	...	...	17
Cairns	25	26	3	...	...	...	54
Cardwell	30	7	...	...	...	...	37
Cook	4	...	1	...	...	...	5
Douglas	7	1	...	...	...	8
Ingham	22	42	12	...	...	...	76
Mackay (less Nebo collection)	1	4	5	...	83	61	76	...	1	1	232
Mareeba	9	...	...	...	...	...	9
Mourilyan	1	34	44	4	...	...	...	83
Somerset	3	...	...	...	...	...	3
Townsville	5	...	8	1	...	...	14
Total East	1	4	5	1	229	189	176	1	1	1	608
<i>West of Range.</i>											
Boulia
Burke
Camooweal
Cape River	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	3
Charters Towers	20	...	...	...	20
Cloncurry
Croydon
Etheridge	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
Herberton	4	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	5
Hughenden	6	...	8	4	...	...	18
Norman
Palmer	3	1	...	...	...	...	4
Ravenswood
Thornborough
Winton	1	...	...	1
Total West	6	...	...	11	2	28	6	...	...	53
Total Northern Division	1	10	5	1	240	191	204	7	1	1	661
Grand Total, 1900	4,544	5,290	7,125	826	6,737	1,164	3,189	11,727	650	193	41,445
„ 1899	2,075	4,352	3,697	747	4,096	710	2,921	15,277	742	897	35,514
Increase in 1900	2,469	938	3,428	79	2,641	454	268	...	...	...	5,931
Decrease in 1900	3,550	92	704	...

Table No. XVII.
AVERAGE YIELD PER ACRE OF CROPS.

Division.	Description.	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.		Sugar to Acres Crushed	Cotton.	Arrow-root (Tuber).	Tobacco, Dried Leaf.	Coffee.	Pumpkins.	Hay of all Kinds.	Grapes.	Bananas.	Pine-apples.	Oranges.
		Wheat.	Oats.	Barley, Malting.	Barley, Other.	Maize.	Rice.	Rye.	English.	Sweet.											
		Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Tons.	Cwt.	Lb.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Bunches.	Dozen.	Dozen.
SOUTHERN	East of Main Range	19.37	21.44	19.22	19.50	20.11	12.58	10.53	1.94	4.82	0.79	...	11.02	...	241	3.21	2.66	2,876	660	489	646
	West of Main Range	15.04	20.61	17.05	15.50	16.10	...	14.70	1.31	2.00	...	...	...	6.11	...	2.92	1.04	1,366	...	...	2,591
	Total Southern	15.08	20.67	17.13	15.62	18.47	12.58	12.77	1.80	4.82	0.79	...	11.02	6.11	241	3.06	1.89	2,075	660	489	1,125
CENTRAL	East of Main Range	8.82	16.00	11.20	20.00	18.30	...	...	1.66	4.04	1.00	...	...	...	460	2.61	1.25	2,782	304	173	579
	West of Main Range ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.00	2.25	...	...	...	...	...	1.75	1.70	2,588	...	...	967
	Total Central	8.82	16.00	11.20	20.00	18.30	...	...	1.67	3.97	1.00	...	...	...	460	2.59	1.28	2,763	304	173	586
NORTHERN	East of Main Range ... ..	...	10.00	...	...	33.65	26.71	...	2.55	5.87	1.62	...	10.67	2.78	373	3.65	2.56	1,611	286	328	669
	West of Main Range ... ..	...	...	...	...	19.95	...	...	1.38	2.65	...	...	...	...	...	3.50	1.67	1,114	268	382	636
	Total Northern ... ..	...	10.00	...	...	28.32	26.71	...	2.21	5.53	1.62	...	10.67	2.78	373	3.61	1.96	1,250	286	332	662
TOTAL COLONY FOR 1900		15.06	20.40	17.12	15.62	19.20	25.35	12.77	1.81	5.04	1.28	...	11.02	6.06	361	3.07	1.85	2,096	373	452	938
" " 1899		11.70	15.00	16.64	12.59	17.79	29.08	12.08	2.11	5.08	1.55	...	10.83	8.79	212	3.74	1.75	1,850	625	404	611

Price 1s. 6d.]

By Authority: GEORGE ARTHUR VAUGHAN, Acting Government Printer, William street, Brisbane.